

To the
Abandoned
Sacred
Beasts

VOL.

1

Presented by
MAYBE



How
awful
...



The
war is
over...

We're
supposed
to have
peace,
yet...

SWIP



Oh,
father
...

give me
strength
...

Chapter 1: Beast Hunter

Presented by MAYBE

VOL.

1

To the Abandoned
Sacred Beasts

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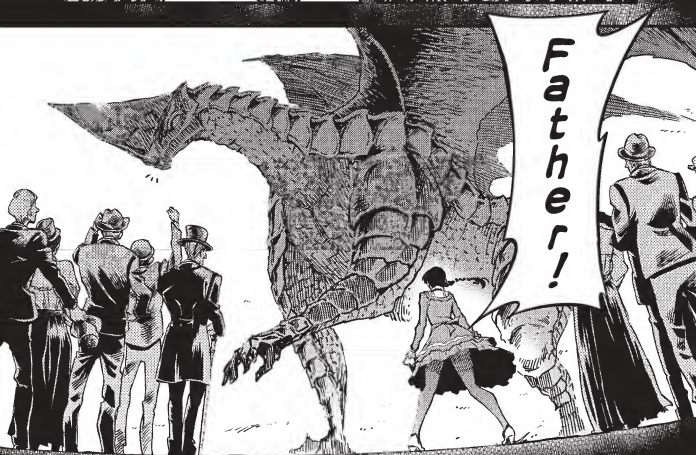
the
Northern
forces,
outnumbered
and
outgunned,
used
forbidden
arts to
create
bizarre
soldiers.

Back
when the
Civil War
between
North and
South
dragged
on,

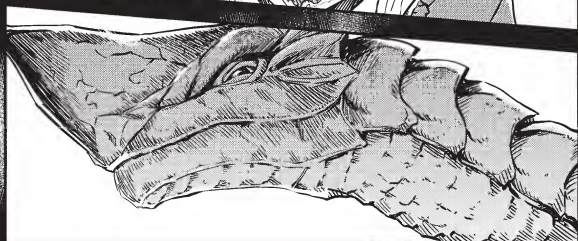
"Incar-
nates."

those
regiments
led the
war-torn
nation to
peace...

With
godlike
powers
bestowed
upon them
in exchange
for their
human
forms,



W-
Welcome
back...



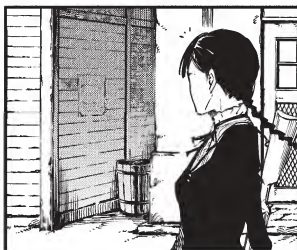
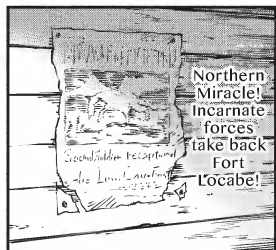
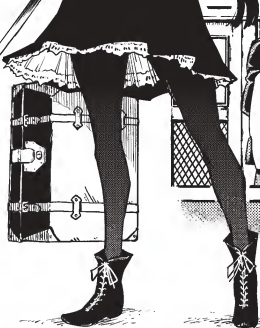
are
now
deni-
grated
as mere
"Beasts."

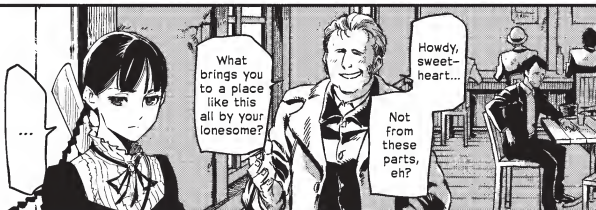
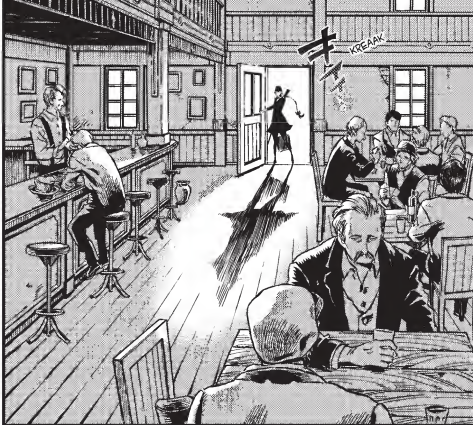
these
soldiers,
once
heralded
as Gods

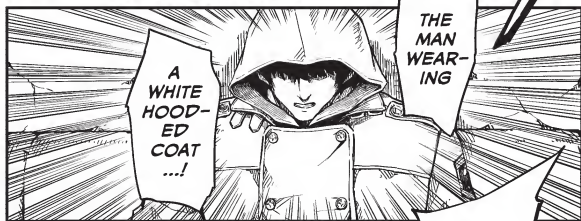
With
the
Civil
War a
distant
mem-
ory,

People
grew to
fear it
and its
corrupting
influence.

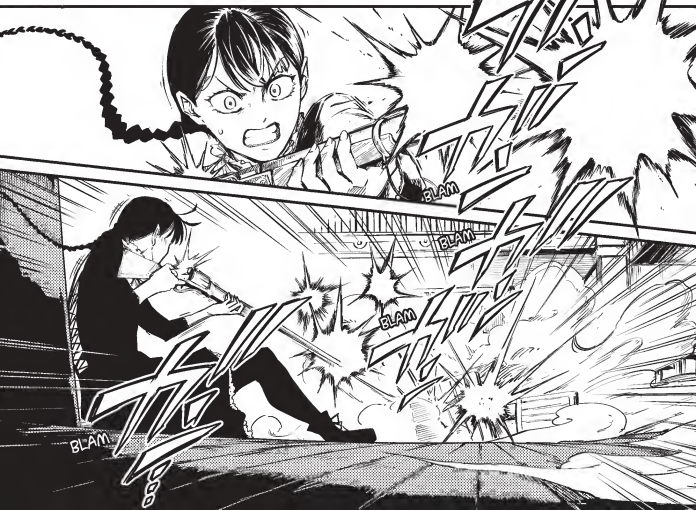
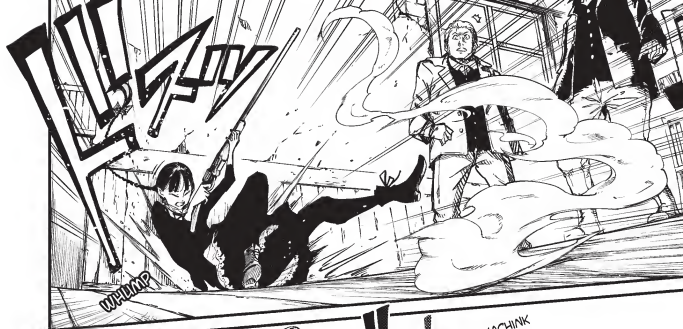
How-
ever,
such
divine
power
was too
great
for
mortal
flesh.















Finally
get to
take
a nap,
and this
happens
...

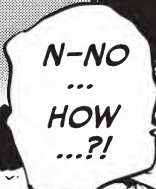


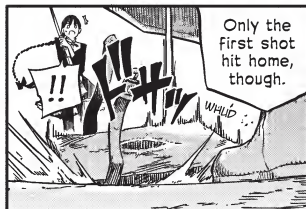
For
the
love
of...



You
can't
do
things
like
that
...

You
scared
everyone
outta
their
wits.







Even
so, he
shouldn't
be as
fine as
he is...

A
steel
plate
...?!



IT'S A
KEEP-
SAKE
FROM
MY
FATHER
!

...!

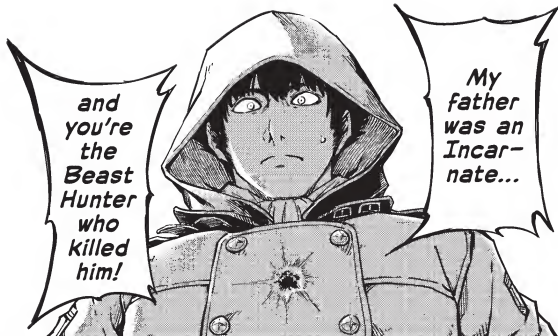


Don't tell
me you've
forgotten
...!



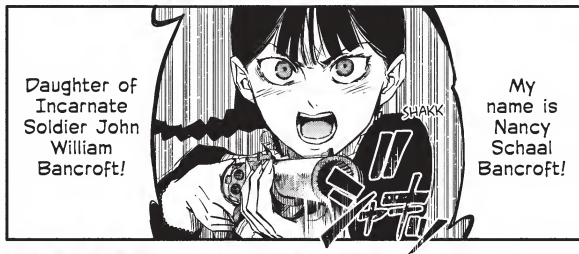
An
ele-
phant
gun,
eh...?

Not really
something
you should
be pointing
at people,
y'know.



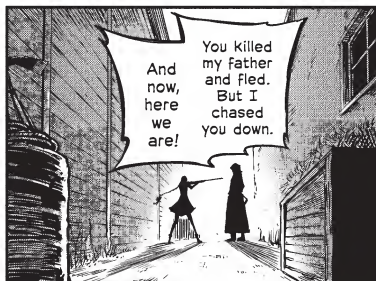
*and
you're
the
Beast
Hunter
who
killed
him!*

*My
father
was an
Incar-
nate...*



Daughter of
Incarnate
Soldier John
William
Bancroft!

My
name is
Nancy
Schaal
Bancroft!



And
now,
here
we
are!

You killed
my father
and fled.
But I
chased
you down.



You're
from
back
then...

...!
I see
...



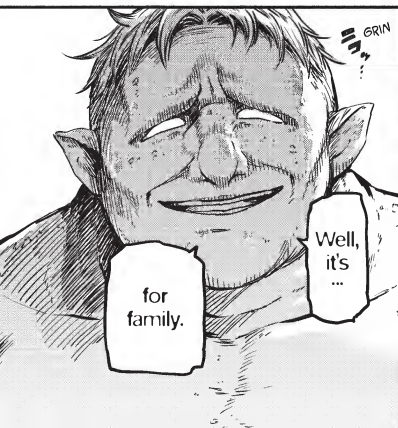
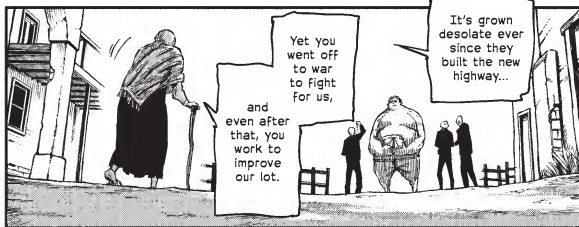
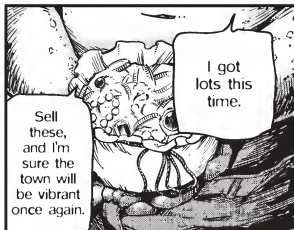
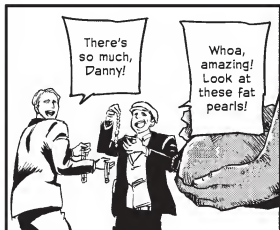
I
CAME
HERE
TO
MEET
HIM.

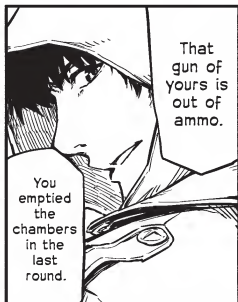


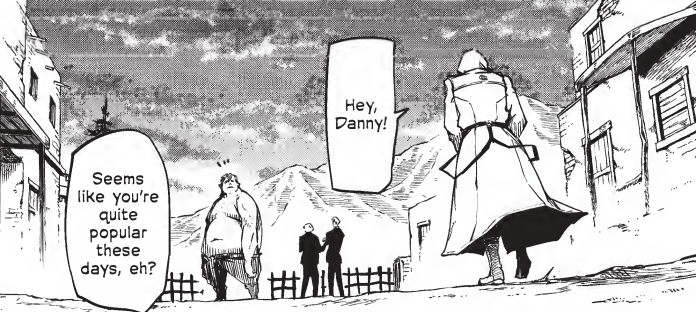


Did
you
bring
home
the
bacon?

DANNY!







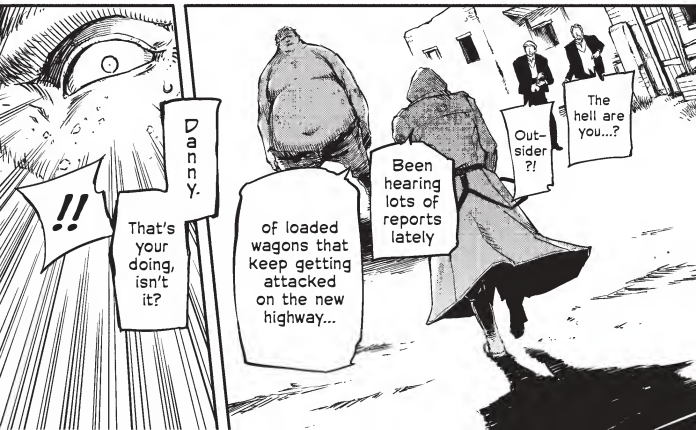
Seems like you're quite popular these days, eh?

Hey, Danny!



...

Mind telling me what kind of work you've been up to?



Danny.

That's your doing, isn't it?

of loaded wagons that keep getting attacked on the new highway...

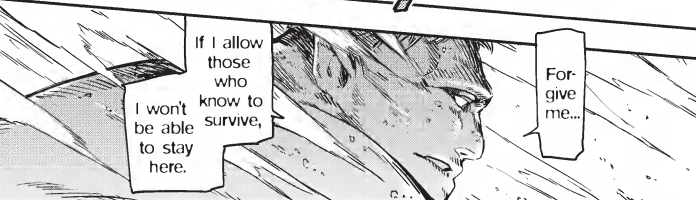
Been hearing lots of reports lately

Outsider ?!

The hell are you...?







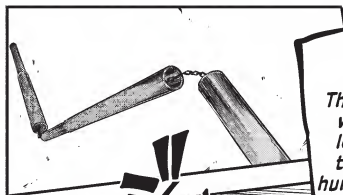


You
are
...

Cap-
tain
?!

?!/



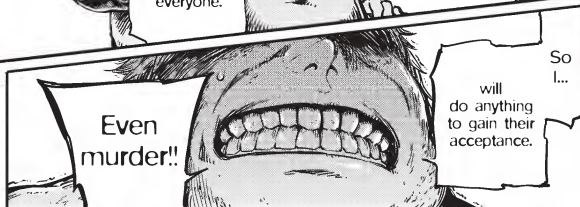


Those
who
lose
their
humanity



shall
be laid
to rest
by his
comrades.







Look
...

This is
his true
form.

The
Incarnate
"Spriggan."

A soldier
that can
become
enormous.

RUMBLE



I don't
care
if I'm
called a
Beast
...

I'll
use this
power...
to
survive
!



Daniel
"Spriggan"
Price.



You
were
a kind
man...

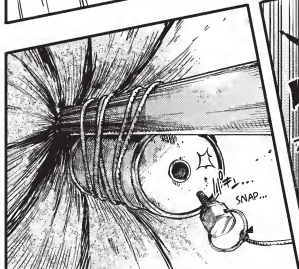
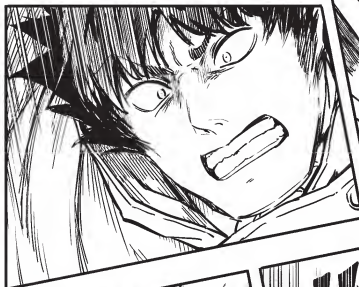
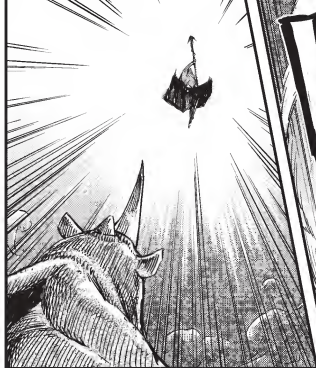


And
that...
makes
me
happy.

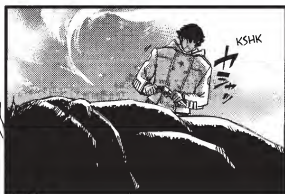
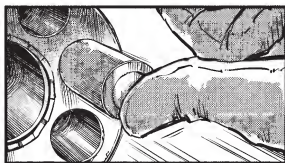
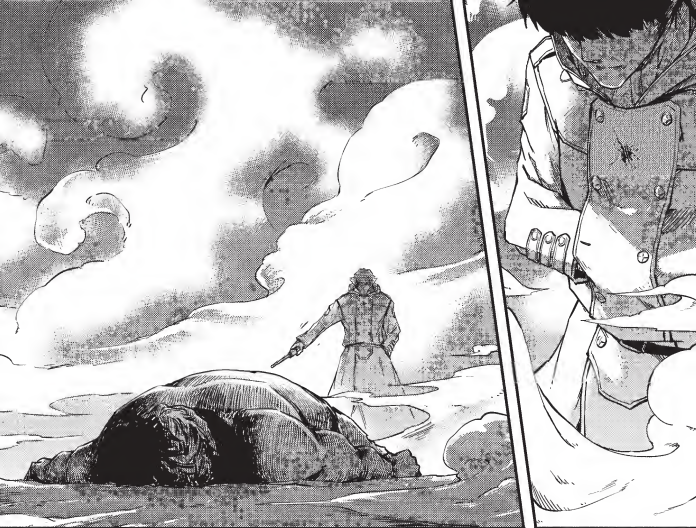


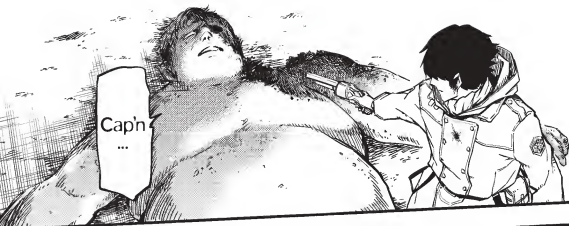
But if I fight,
everyone back
home will be
able to live
easy lives.

I come from a
poor town. Can't
even get enough
coffee to drink.







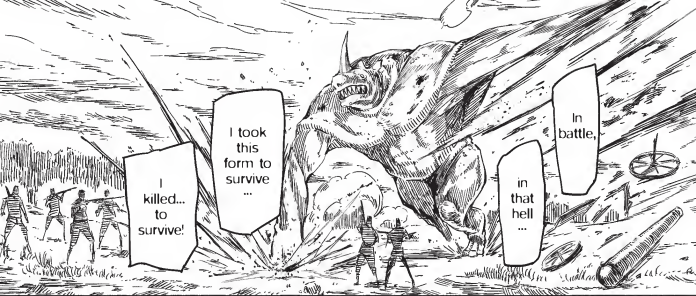


Cap'n
...



How
should
I have...
lived my
life?

Would it
have been
better if...
if I'd never
come back
at all?



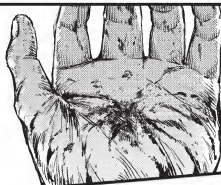
I
killed...
to
survive!

I took
this
form to
survive
...

in
that
hell
...

In
battle,

they
were
all thinking
of peace...
of their
families...
as they
died.



Friend
and foe
alike...
they all
...



and
their
frigid
stares.

all
that
await-
ed
me

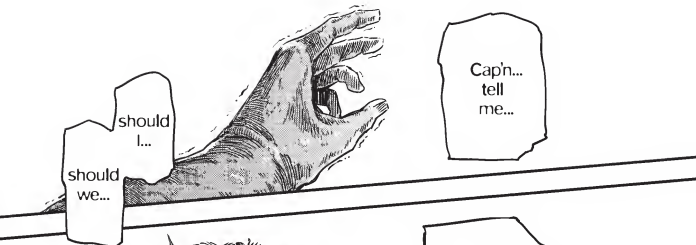
were
cries
of

"mur-
derer"
or
"mon-
ster"
...

even
though the
war's over...
even though
I escaped
that hell...

And
now
...

even
though I
survived for
everyone's
sake...



should
I...

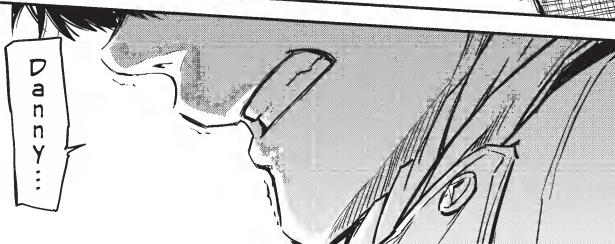
should
we...

Cap'n...
tell
me...

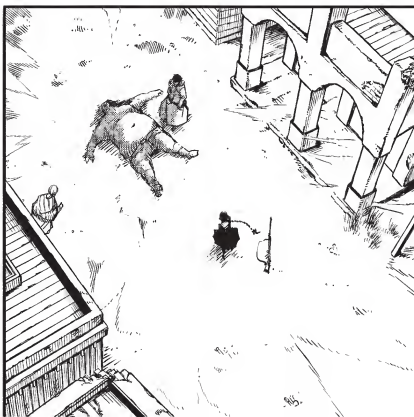
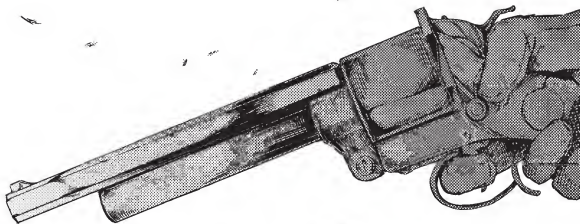


have
died

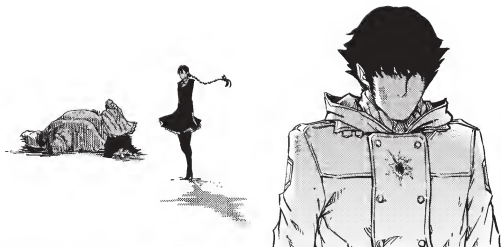
back there,
in battle,
as heroes...
as "gods"
...?



Danny...







Striking
him down
while he
begged for
his life?

Is
that how
you killed
my father,
too...?



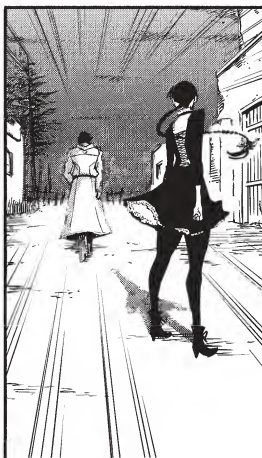
But
why
...?

The
war is
over
...



That's
the prom-
ise

we
made.





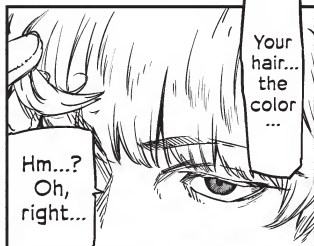
**None
of
us**

**were
able to
finish
it.**



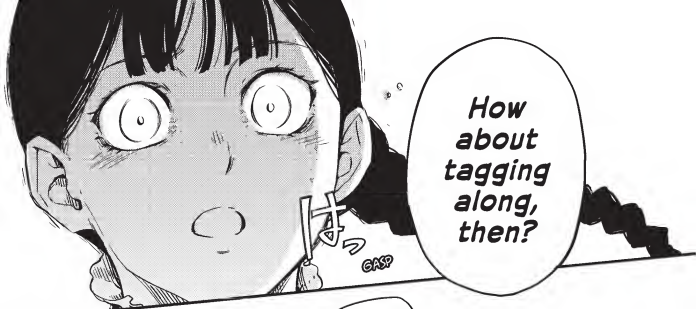
**It's
not
over
...**

**Noth-
ing
is.**



Your
hair...
the color
...





*How
about
tagging
along,
then?*

an
Incarnate's
daughter...

You're
Will's...



why
he was better
off
killed
by a
Beast
Hunter.



You
should
see
with
your
own
eyes



The
name's
Hank,
by the way.



Oh, uh...
call me
Schaal!



UH
...

HEY!
WAIT
FOR ME
PLEASE,
HANK!

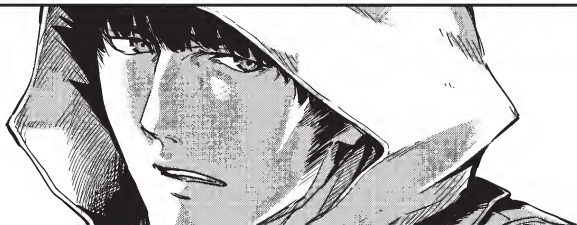
OR
I'LL
SHOOT
!

...AH!
HANG ON
A MINUTE,
I LEFT MY
THINGS
AT THE
SALOON
...



I WILL
NOT MAKE
FRIENDS
WITH MY
FATHER'S
MURDER-
ER!

Chapter 2: The Minotaur's Fortress (Pt. 1)



I just
asked if
she wanted
me to
carry her
luggage...

Ah, I
see...

FUME
FUME
FUME

He kills
Incar-
nates,
those
heralded
as heroes,
now
seen
as
mere
beasts.

A
Beast
Hunter.

with
this
man.

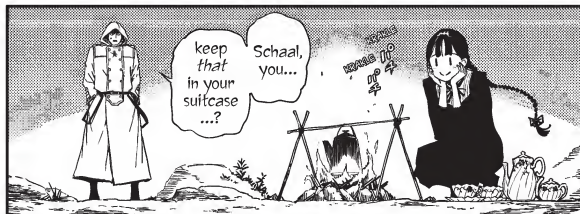
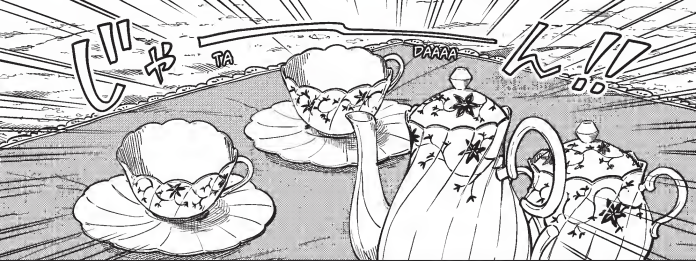
I'm
now
on a jour-
ney

...?

IS
THAT
THE
TIME
?!
!!!

OH,
DEAR!

GLANCE
GLANCE





That's
what my
father
taught
me.

hoo...

Relaxation
is
important.



AS IF I
WOULD
EVER DO
SUCH A
THING!

HUH
?!

You didn't
put poison
in here,
did you...?



But I
don't
think
that'd be
enough
to kill
me.



...?

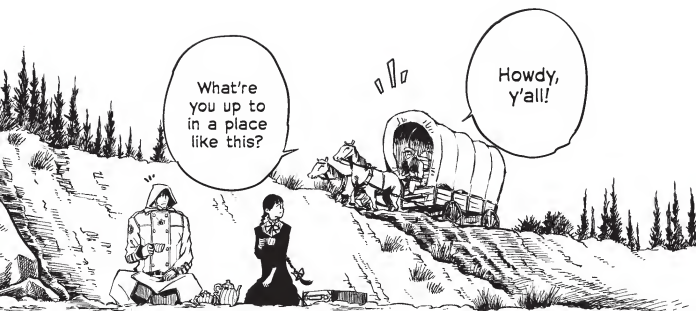


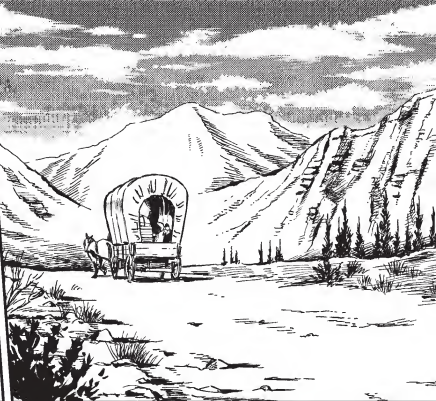
WHEN
I KILL
YOU, IT'LL
BE WITH MY
FATHER'S
ELEPHANT
GUN!

I'LL PUT
A HOLE
RIGHT
THROUGH
YOUR
GUTS!

BANG! ぱん!!

Uh...
right...







"PREPARE
FOR
BATTLE!",
"THE
ENEMY'S
COMING!"

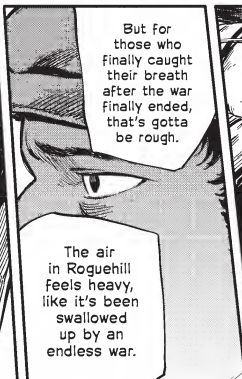
THE
POOR
THING
STANDS
AT THE
TOP AND
SCREAMS,

etc.



Those
Beasts
brought
back a
lot of
baggage,

good
and
bad.



But for
those who
finally caught
their breath
after the war
finally ended,
that's gotta
be rough.

The air
in Roguehill
feels heavy,
like it's been
swallowed
up by an
endless war.



Scared
off
bandits
'round
these
parts.

Good
news for
peddlers
like me.



*Welcome
to the
Minotaur's
Fortress!*

*Roguehill,
the town
of never-
ending
war.*

there
it
is!

Look
...





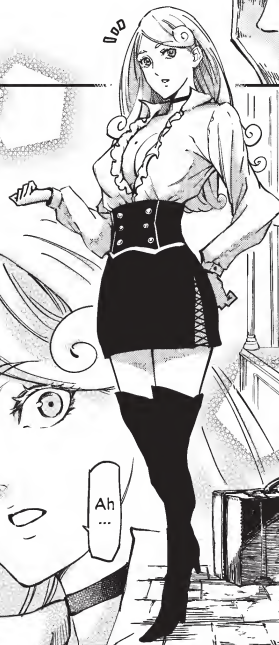
First,
find a
place to
stay.



What
should
we do?



And
then
...



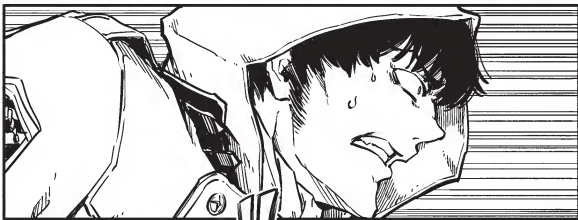
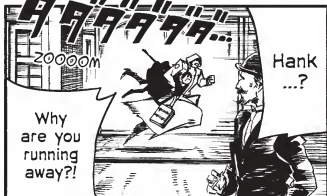
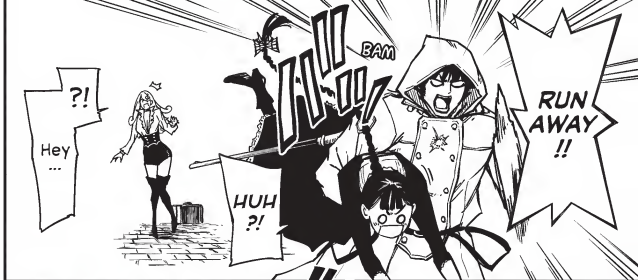
!!

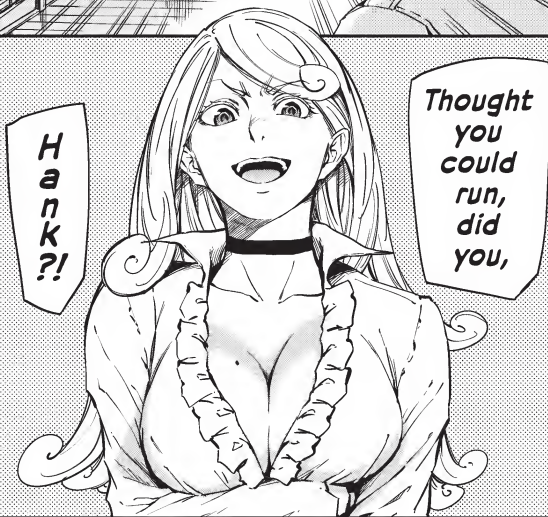
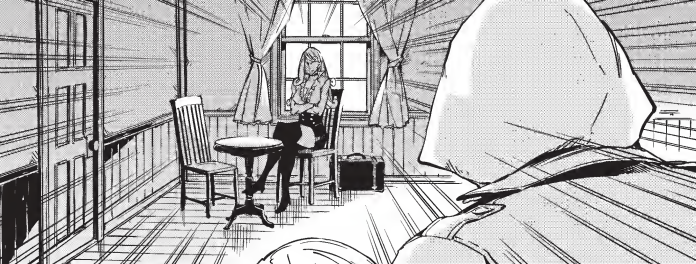


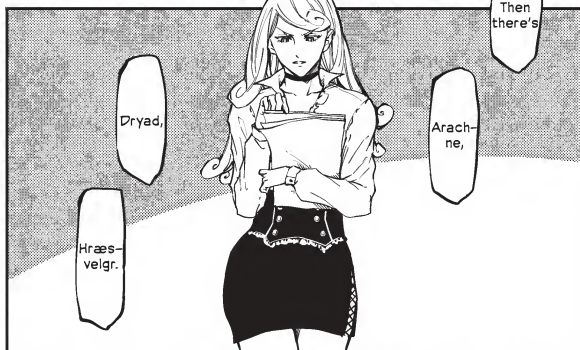
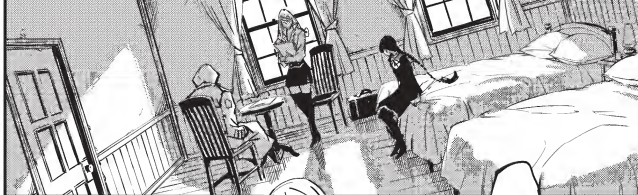
Ah
...

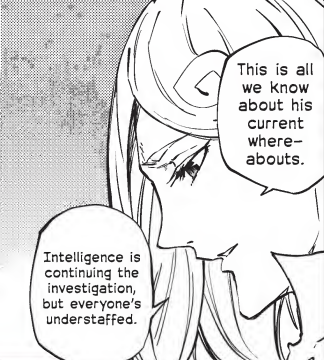


!!









This is all we know about his current whereabouts.

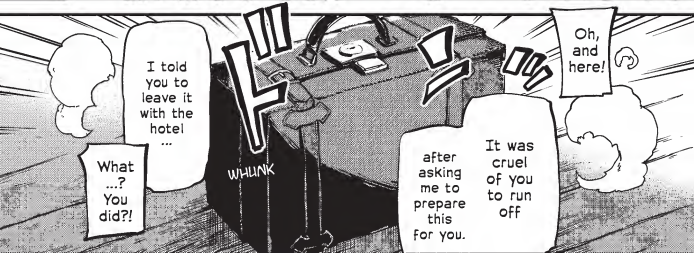
Intelligence is continuing the investigation, but everyone's understaffed.



A dexterous construction specialist with superhuman strength.

There are stories of him constructing forts in three days during the war...

But if he's building one in a place like this, he must really love war.



I told you to leave it with the hotel ...

What ...? You did?!

WHUNK

Oh, and here!

after asking me to prepare this for you.

It was cruel of you to run off



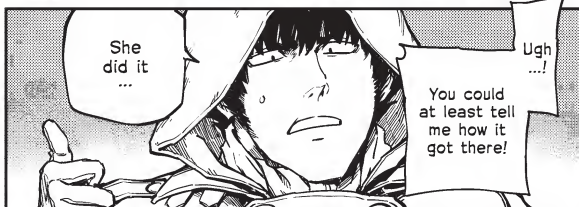
you...

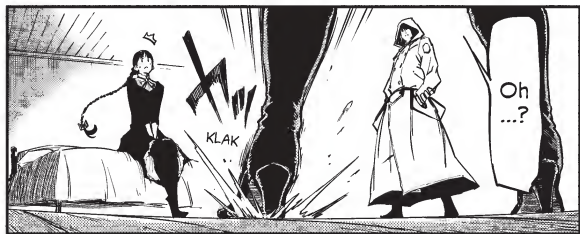
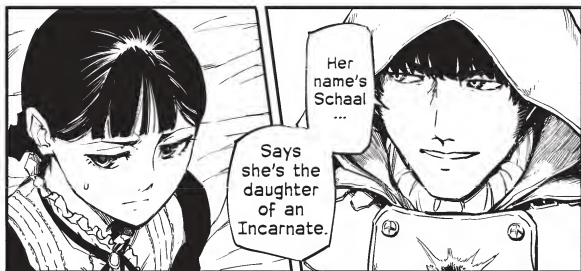


After all, it's my job to support ...

If there's anything else you need, just say the word!

Anyways ...!





LEAN
//
//
//

Hank's a nice guy, which is why he rescued you, I'm sure...

but you must understand what he's doing, right?

WE'VE BEEN WORKING TOGETHER A LONG, LONG TIME, SO...

Hang on, it hasn't even been 2 years.



KLAK
KLAK
KLAK

MY NAME'S LIZA.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE, POSTWAR DIVISION.

BASICALLY, I PROVIDE IMPORTANT SUPPORT TO SPECIAL SERGEANT-MAJOR HANK.

KLAK
KLAK
KLAK

YOU'RE A BURDEN.

SMILE
//
//
//

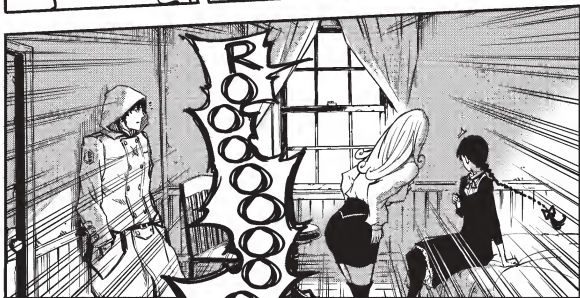


I've
even
shot
people
...



I'm
nothing
of the
sort.

While my
father was
gone, I
protected
our home
by myself.



What
was
that
voice
...?!





KLEATTER

ROOOOOO

The time has come to fight!

Pre-prepare!
Pre-prepare for war!

OOOOAARR...



Their
mena-
cing
bayo-
nets?!

The eyes
of the
enemy,
burning
with
blood-
lust?!

the
remains
of
your
fallen
friends
?!

The
flames
of war
that
laid
waste
to your
homes,

Have
you
for-
gotten,
citi-
zens
?!

Gather
provisions,
polish the
rifles!

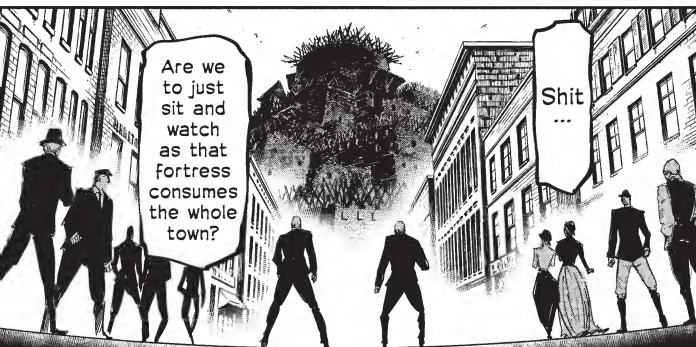
Close
the
gates!

Build
up
the
walls!



Only those
who have not
forgotten
death are
permitted
to live!

Prepare!
Prepare
for war!!





is what
launched
this building
spree.

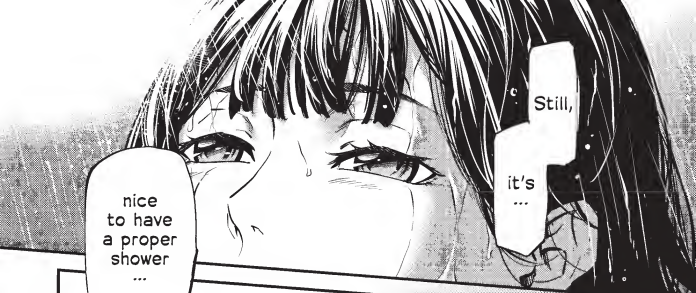
that
a kid
pointing
his toy
gun at
him

I heard
from the
towns-
people



I
wonder
what he
thinks
he's
warring
with...





nice
to have
a proper
shower
...

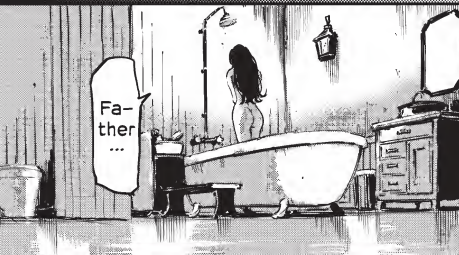
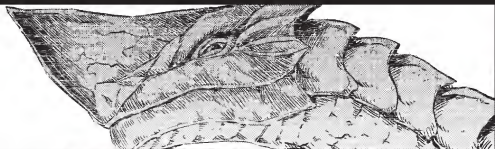
Still,
it's
...



Don't worry.
I'll come back
alive.

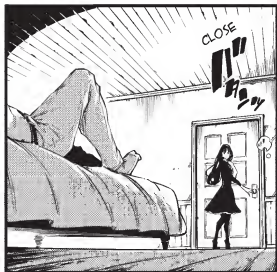
it sounds
like the
government
will support the
orphanage...

If I enlist
as an
incarnate,



Fa-
ther
...





Some reason
that demands
they keep
fighting even
after the war
has ended...



There must
be some kind
of reason
they have
to fight...

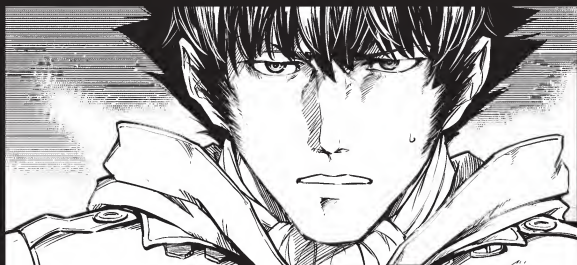
Even for that
Incarnate...



for
him.

And
even,
I'm
sure,





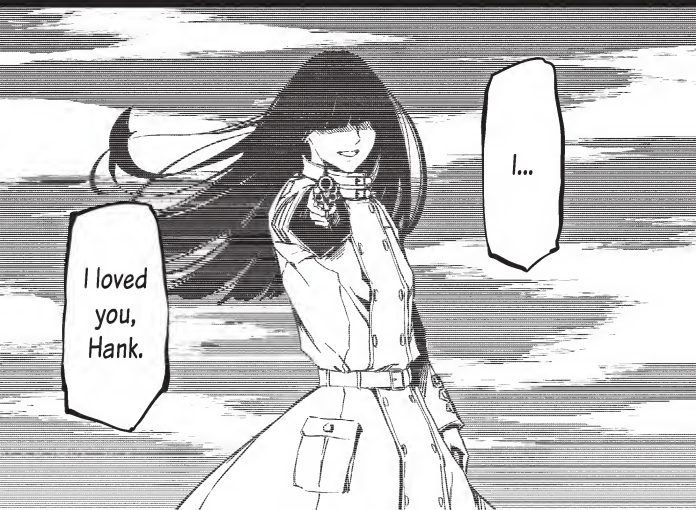


So I'm
going to kill
your platoon
before that
happens.

Incarbrates
inevitably
lose their
humanity.



That...
is my
duty.



I loved
you,
Hank.

I...

E l a i n e !

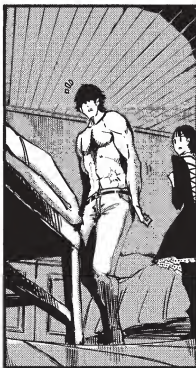
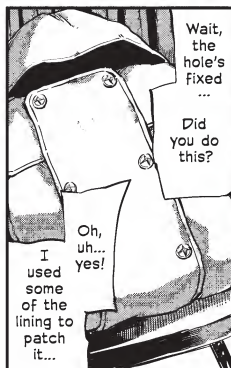
NO!

BLAM...

...
nk
...!

Hank!











After
all...

he's
itching
for a
fight.



Now,
then.

Shall
we?



Yeah
...



I
knew
it...

You're
going to
kill him
too,
aren't
you?

To the Abandoned
Sacred Beasts

THE
PERFECT
FOR-
TRESS.

FACED
WITH NO
OBSTRUCTION,
HE BUILT THIS
WITHOUT
PAYING HEED
TO TIME OR
RESOURCES...

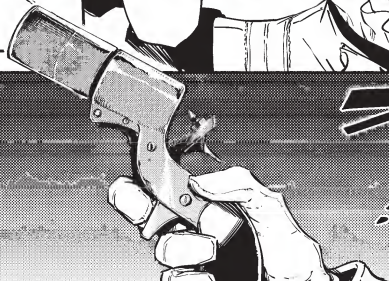
I'm
fine.

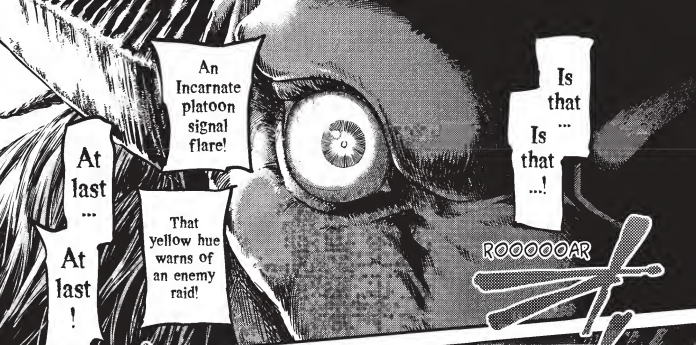
It's
gonna
be
danger-
ous in
there.

Chapter 3: The Minotaur's Fortress (Pt. 2)



I can take care
of myself
just fine.





An
Incarnate
platoon
signal
flare!

Is
that
...
Is
that
...!

At
last
...

At
last
!

That
yellow hue
warns of
an enemy
raid!

ROOOOOAR



ROOOOOAR

ROOOOOAR

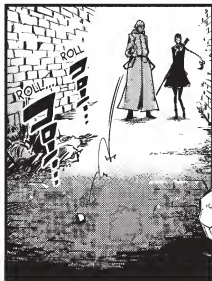
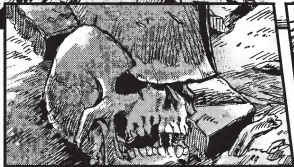


The fog
is thick
tonight.
Don't lose
sight of
me.

The
one who
made
him a
Beast
...

R-
Right!

was
me.



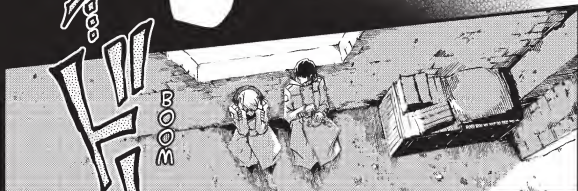


BOOR
BOOR
BOOR

So I
taught
him
how to
survive.

Not the
type you'd
expect to
live long
in battle.

Every-
thing
would
startle
and
frighten
him,
putting
him in
greater
danger.



you
scared
?

Theo
...



wanna
end up
like
them,
sir.

I-I
just
don't
...



You
...

You're
not,
sir?

I think,
"I've done
everything
that I
can,"

and that
lets me act
with a clear
mind when it
matters.

But
preparing
like this
puts my
mind at
ease, if only
a little.

No...

I'm
scared,
too.

Ah...

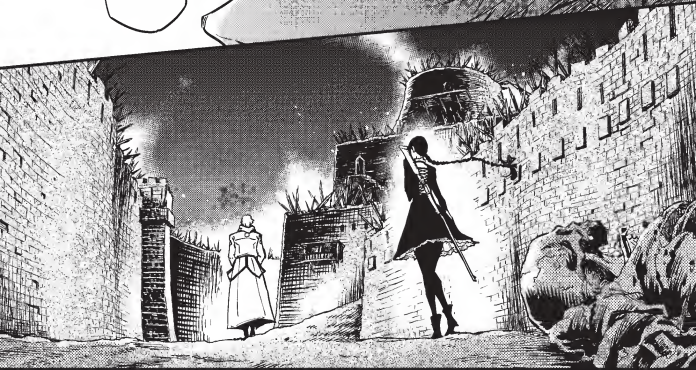
Theo
...

What are
you doing
right
now?

I-
I'm
...

taught
him
this.

I...



So
huge,
but
there's
not a
living
soul.

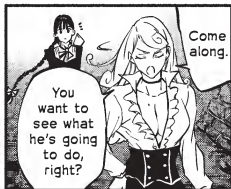
What
is he
thinking,
all on his
own...?

What a
warped
design
...

And
it's so...
lonely.







You want to see what he's going to do, right?

Come along.



Are you sure?

I...



It appears Hank knew I'd tag along

and expected me to look after you.



"I can protect myself, thank you very much?"

Sheesh. What were you boasting about before?



What is it?
You wanna
head
back?

No!



Uhm...
Liza?



It's
my job
to back
him up,
after
all.



If
Hank
allowed
it, it's
fine.



an
Incarnate,
right?

It's
just...
Hank
is...



So...
what
kind of
Incarnate
is he?



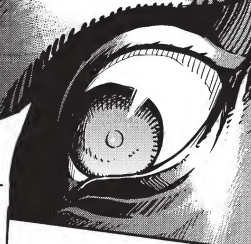
His
hair just
changes
color.
That's all,
really...

But he
doesn't
really
look like
one...

He
looks
like a
normal
human.

...

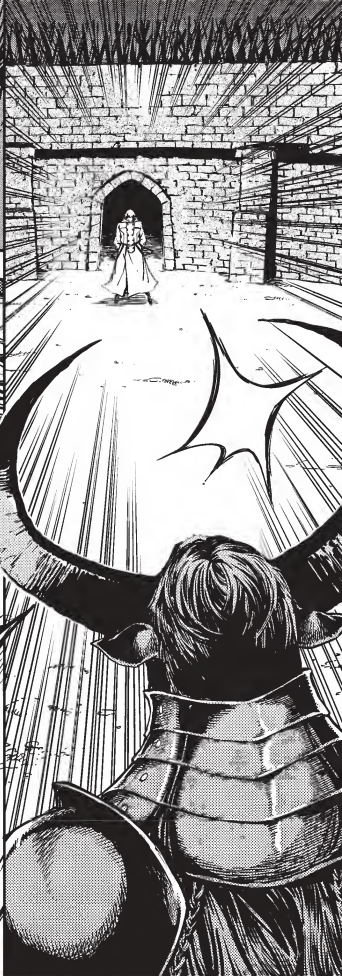


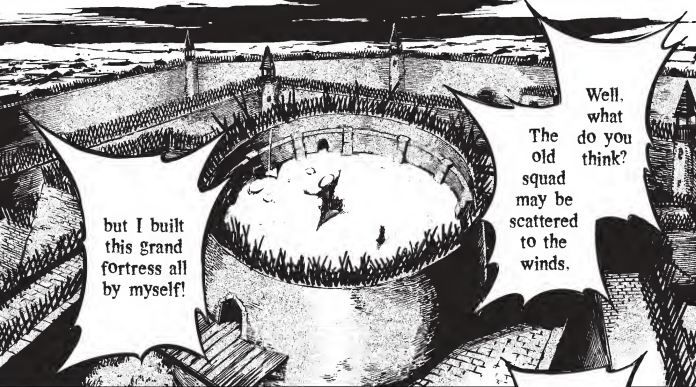


Cap-
tain
...!



I
knew you
were the
one who
fired that
flare!





but I built
this grand
fortress all
by myself!

Well,
what
do you
think?

The
old
squad
may be
scattered
to the
winds.

Now,
no matter
what
enemy
may
come...

Oh,
right!
Where's
the
enemy?!

...



They're
every-
where!

Don't
joke
with
me!

There
is no
enemy,
Theo.



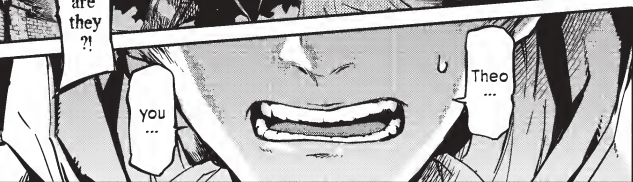
They borrow the forms of children and the eyes of birds! They sneak closer while hiding their true form!

So what are they?!

They target me from the shadows!

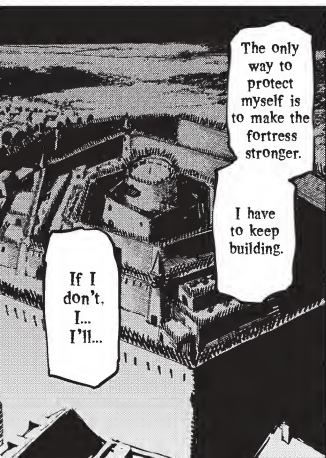
They watch me when I sleep!

If they aren't enemies, then what are they?!



you ...

Theo ...



The only way to protect myself is to make the fortress stronger.

I have to keep building.

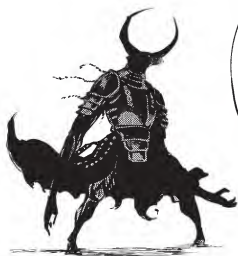
If I don't, I... I'll...



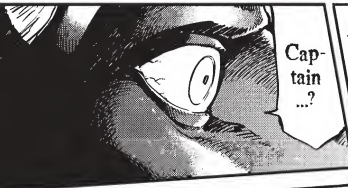
No matter how many walls I build

or how many traps I set

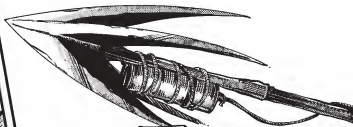
They slip through and draw ever closer ...



Let's
put an end
to this,
Theo...



Cap-
tain
...?



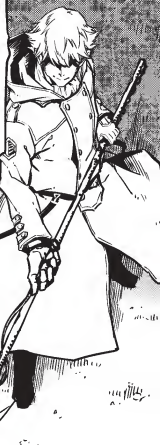
Are
you...
my
enemy
?!

Are you... my enemy?!

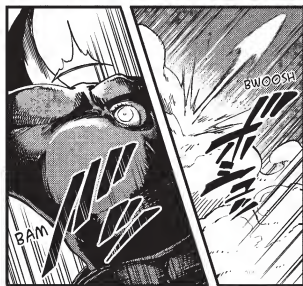
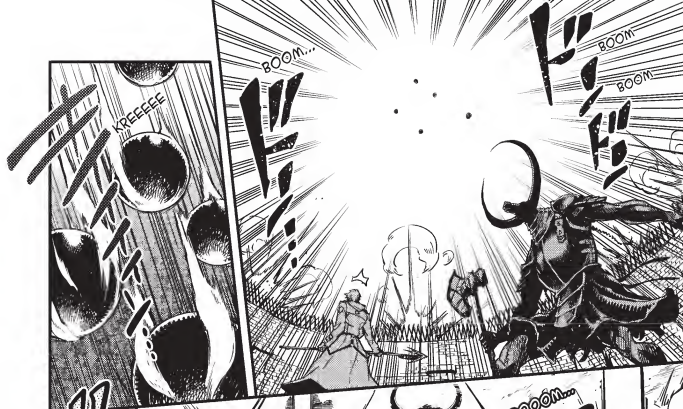
Be-
trayal
...?

A
trick
...?

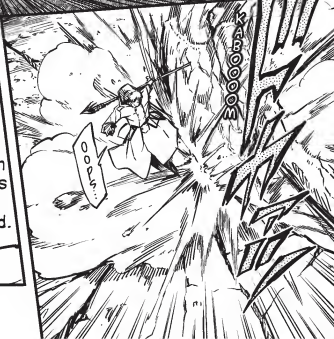
Have
you taken
up with
those
bastards
from
town?!













Wh-
What the
...?!



KRAKLE...

WAVER

No!
But where
there is
preparation,
there is
no fear!

KRIK

KRAK

KRIK



KRAAAASH

KRAK

shall
sur-
vive!

Only those
who remain
ever vigilant

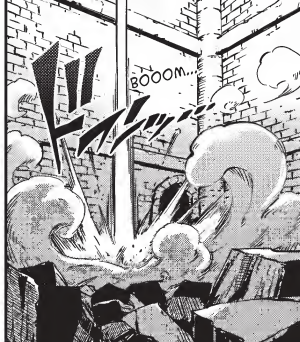


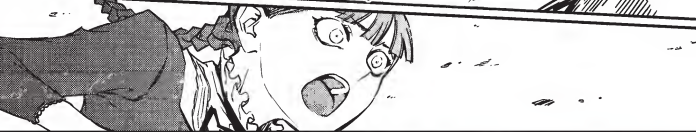
However,
if I take
precautions
to keep
you in
place...!

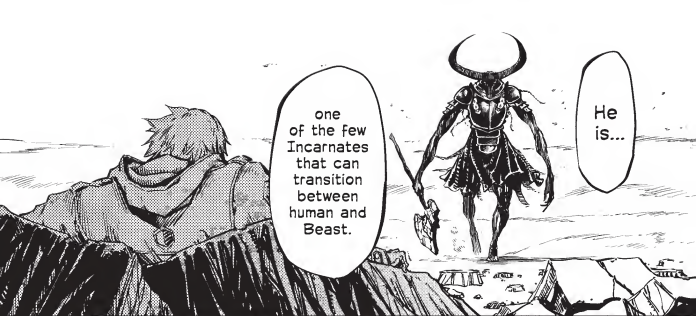
You
are
quite
fast,
Cap-
tain!

KRUMBLE

KRUMBLE







one
of the few
Incarnates
that can
transition
between
human and
Beast.

He
is...



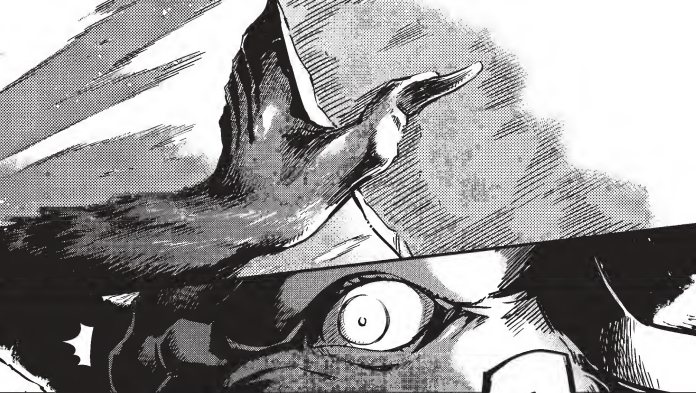
He can
unleash
his true
power
only at
night.

A rare
trait
indeed.

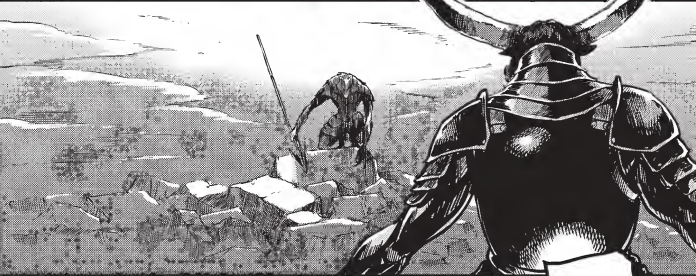
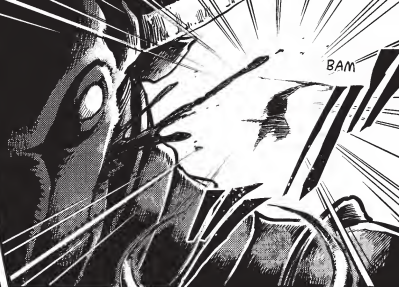


His
true
form
is...

POWW



A
"WEREWOLF."



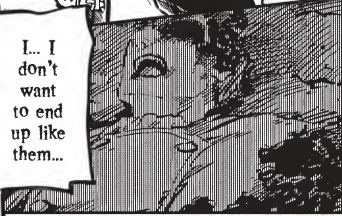
but
you've
gone
too far,
Theo.

You're
on the
side
of the
hunted.

I wanted
to avoid
using this
power as
long as
I could...



No
...



I
don't
want
to
die!!

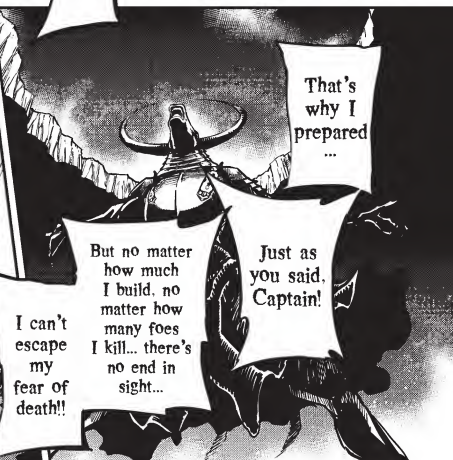
I... I
don't
want
to end
up like
them...



That's
why I
prepared
...

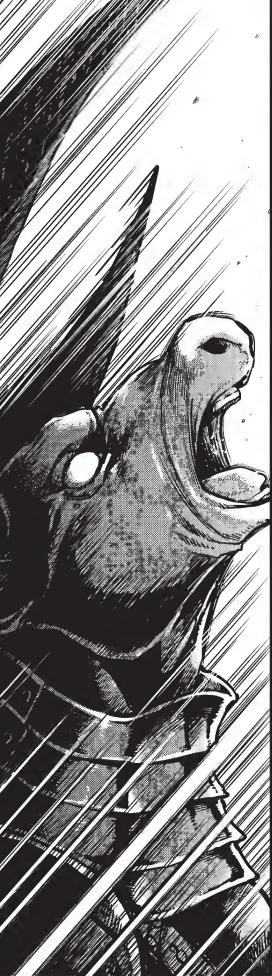
Captain
...
why?!

I can't
escape
my
fear of
death!!



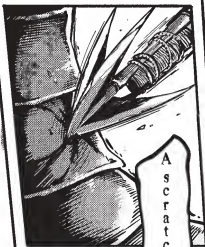
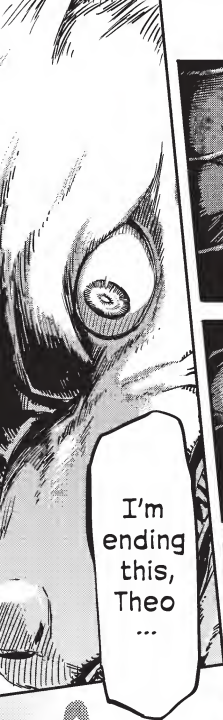
But no matter
how much
I build, no
matter how
many foes
I kill... there's
no end in
sight...

Just as
you said,
Captain!

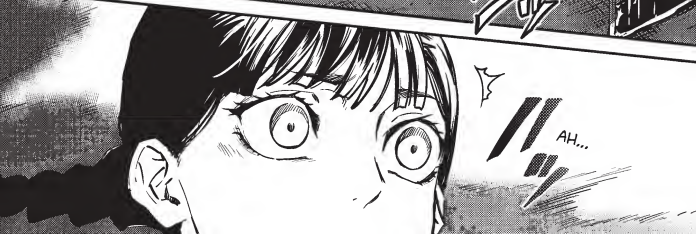
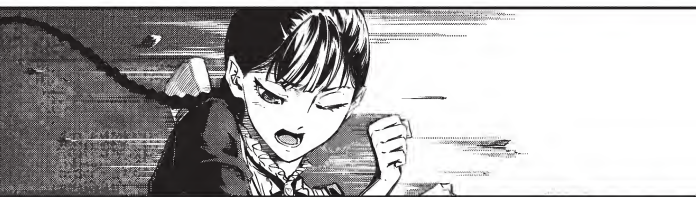
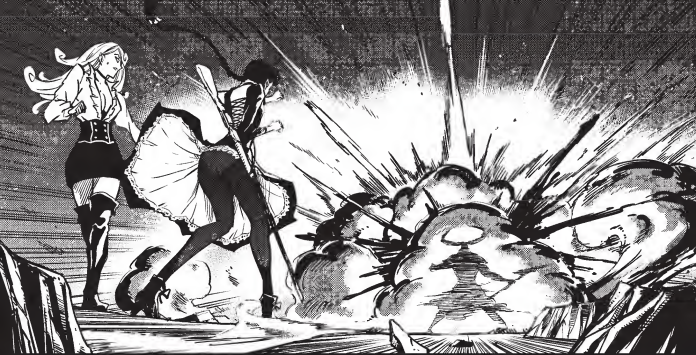


How
much
longer
must I
prepare
...?!

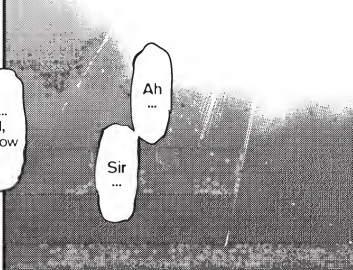


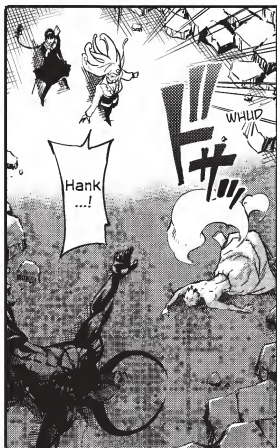
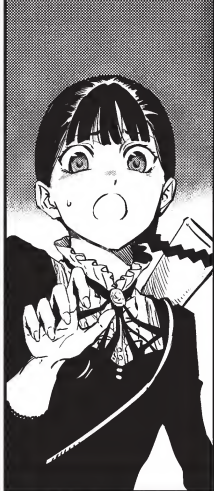
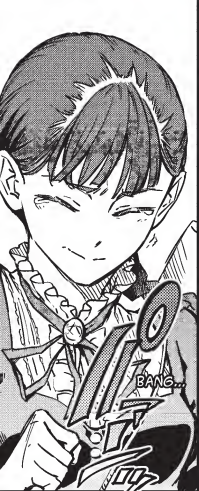


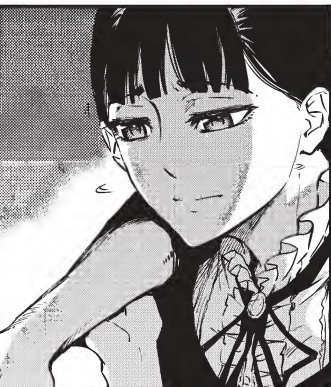
110
PAKING









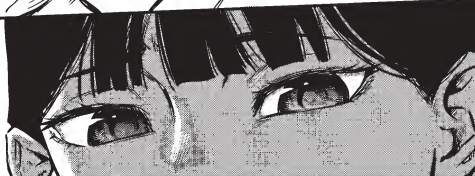




I see
...

He kills
his former
allies, now
looked
down upon
as Beasts.

A
Beast
Hunt-
er.



in his
final
moments
?

What
did my
father say
to him...



Spriggan...

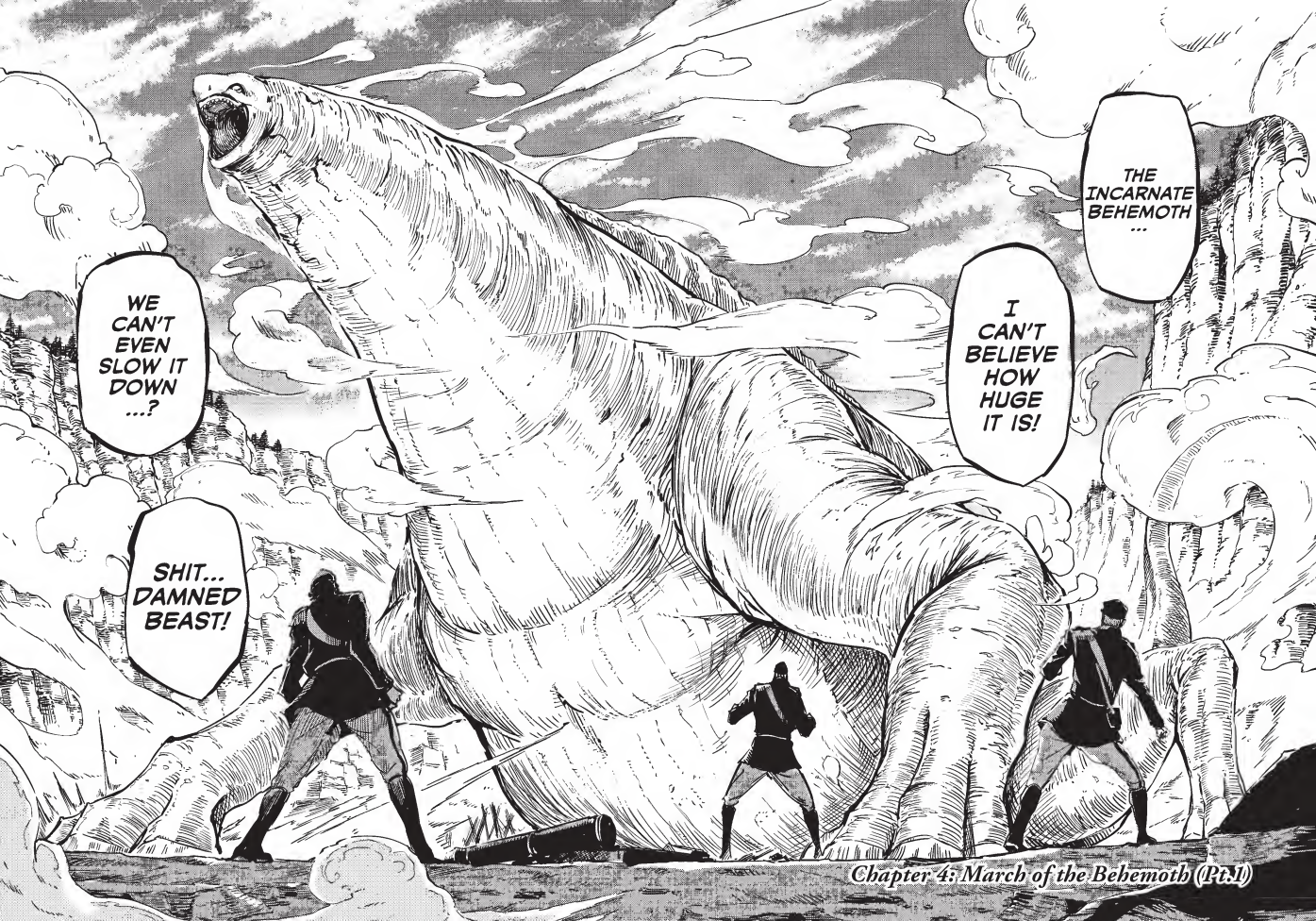
Minotaur...

Their
final
words to the
Hunter con-
tained not
hatred

but
sorrow
...

To the Abandoned
Sacred Beasts





THE
INCARNATE
BEHEMOTH
...

I
CAN'T
BELIEVE
HOW
HUGE
IT IS!

WE
CAN'T
EVEN
SLOW IT
DOWN
...?

SHIT...
DAMNED
BEAST!



Sorry
I'm
late.



SHFF

スッ



ガッ

DASH

?!



ZWOOSH

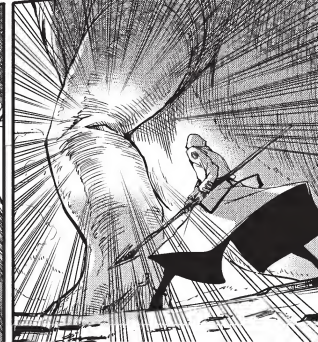
BOOOOOM



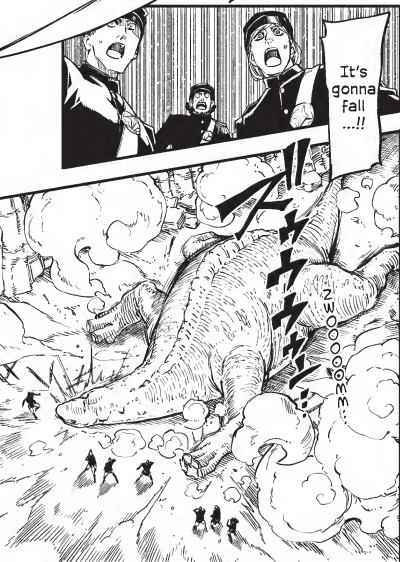
The
hell is
this
guy?!



What's
he gonna
do diving
in alone
?!



There
...!

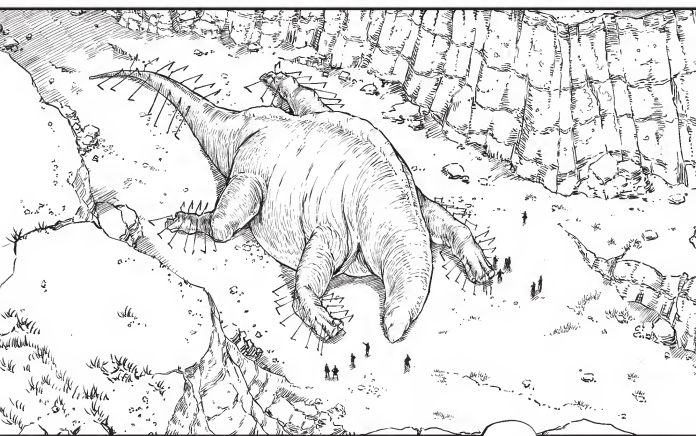
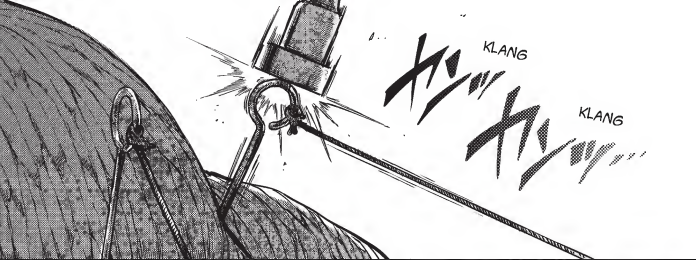


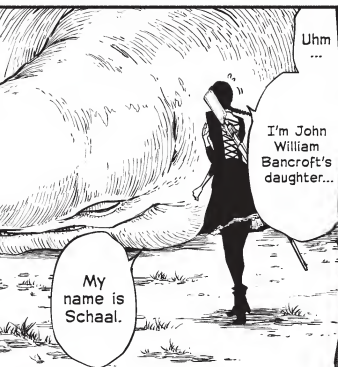
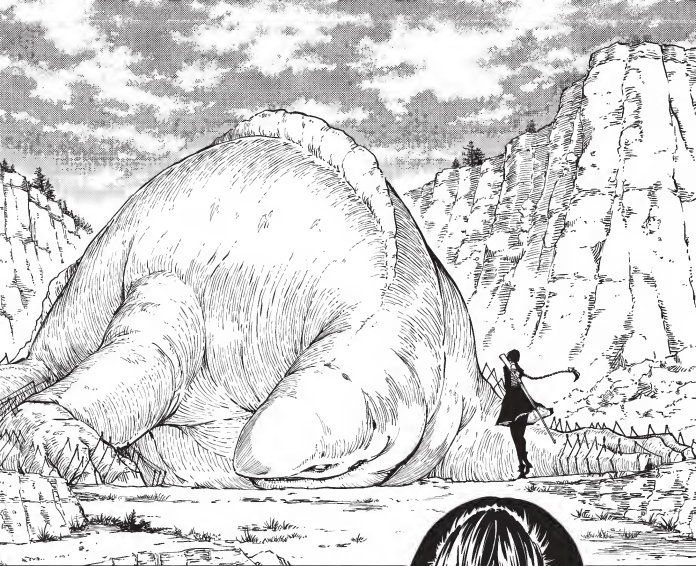


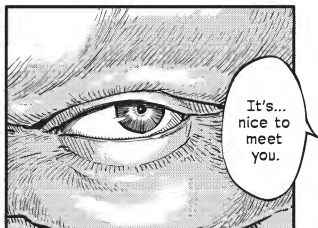
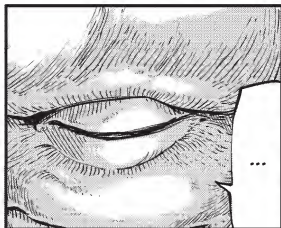
*So
he's
...*

*a
Beast
Hunter
...*

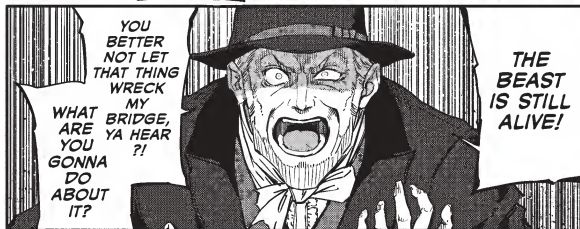














When the joint I destroyed regenerates, it'll be even stronger than before.

I was able to slow him down this time, but that's the best I can do.

He survived the war. It'd be impossible to deliver a blow big enough to kill him.

Any wounds suffered by the Behemoth grow back stronger than before.

You saw it yourself. Cannon fire doesn't so much as faze him.



We don't have such materials here, but...

We can divert its course by collapsing the canyon walls before it.

That should fill in the valley and prevent him from going further.



Ah, sir...?

If the Behemoth continues to head east, it's going to destroy the bridge.



I know, but...

My railroad can carry them here.



AND IF YOU ARMY YELLOW-BELLIES DON'T HAVE WHAT IT TAKES, I'LL DO IT MYSELF!

IF CANNONS DIDN'T WORK, WE'LL BLOW IT TO SMITHEREENS WITH DYNAMITE!

I'M SAYING WE SHOULD FORGET SUCH HALF-ASSSED TACTICS AND USE EXPLOSIVES TO KILL THAT THING!
NO MATTER HOW TOUGH IT IS, IT'S STILL JUST A BEAST!



WHAT'D YOU SAY?!

HOW CAN YOU PROTECT THE BRIDGE WITH THAT ATTITUDE?!



That goes without saying. But we're not doing it for you...

Right, got it.



Do you understand ...?

I don't care what it takes, I gotta protect it...

my rail-road ...



and now I gotta trust 'em? Pah!

Shit ...!
These sad sack losers couldn't win jack squat during the war...

President of some railroad company.

Who is he?

No manners ...

KLATTER



Well, don't say that.

We're working to keep that bridge in one piece, same as him.



If his bridge is destroyed, he can always rebuild it.

That's no reason to take the Incarnate's life...



if we
play our
cards right,
the big guy
won't have
to die,
either.

Besides
...

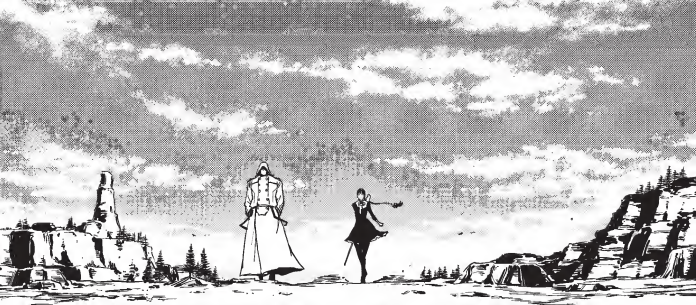


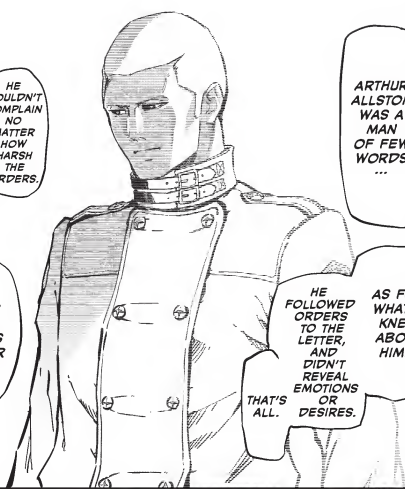
You're
right...



Care
to join
me?

I'm
heading
to the
bridge.





HE
WOULDN'T
COMPLAIN
NO
MATTER
HOW
HARSH
THE
ORDERS.

ARTIE
...

ARTHUR
ALLSTON
WAS A
MAN
OF FEW
WORDS
...

AND
HE NEVER
TALKED
ABOUT HIS
WISHES OR
DESIRES.

HE
FOLLOWED
ORDERS
TO THE
LETTER,
AND
DIDN'T
REVEAL
EMOTIONS
OR
DESIRES.
THAT'S
ALL.

AS FOR
WHAT I
KNEW
ABOUT
HIM...

even
though we
were in the
same unit
for the
entire
war.

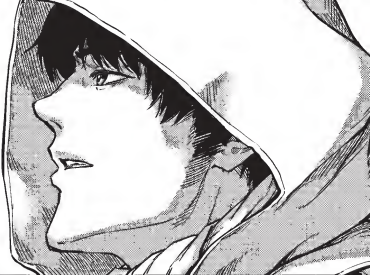
Thinking
back on it
now, he's a
mystery
to me

see
...

I...

he hasn't
yet broken
the promise
we made
back then.

At the
very
least
...



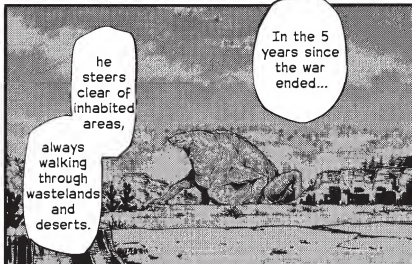
He
might turn
back before
he reaches
that bridge,
too.

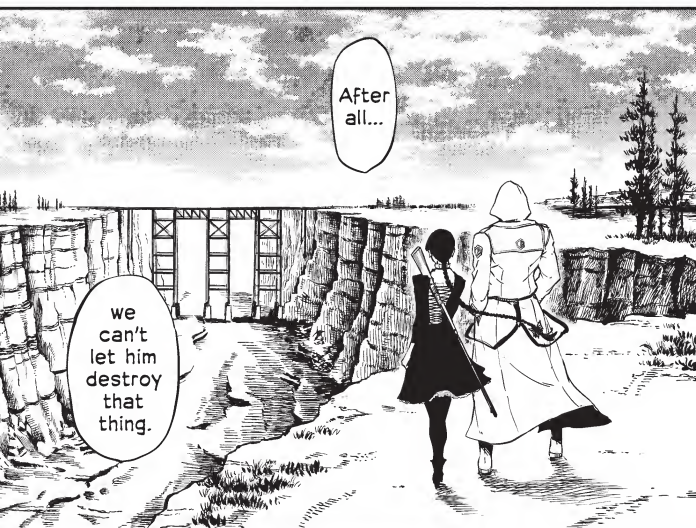


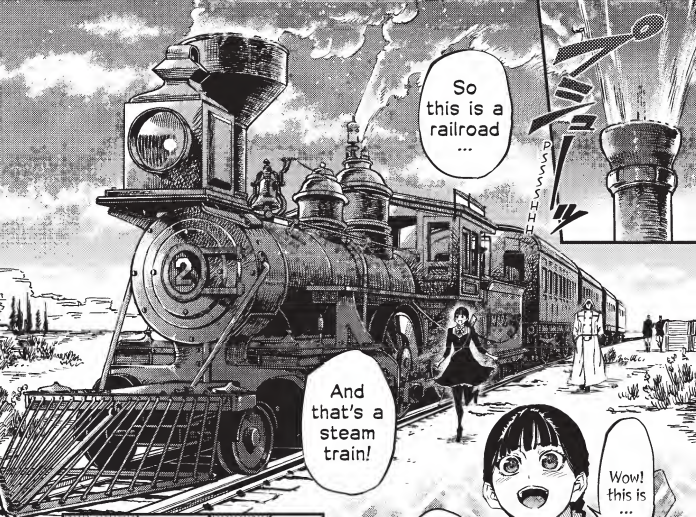
he
steers
clear of
inhabited
areas,

always
walking
through
wastelands
and
deserts.

In the 5
years since
the war
ended...







So
this is a
railroad
...

And
that's a
steam
train!

Wow!
this is
...

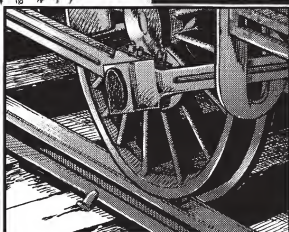
my
first
time
seeing
one!



SMALLER!

I
THOUGHT
THEY'RE
...

Uh...
huh.

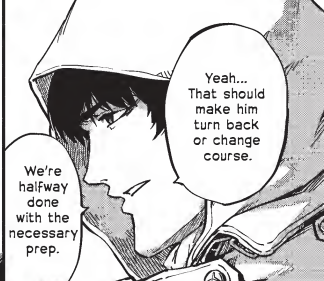






Do we
really have
to stop him
no matter
what?

...



We're
halfway
done
with the
necessary
prep.

Yeah...
That should
make him
turn back
or change
course.



Are
we gonna
see Dad
soon?



And
there's
our new
home
waiting
as well
...

We can
see him as
soon as they
unload our
luggage.

He
says he's
found a
new job
in the
city.

246

Yay!
I can't
wait!



That's
right.



Lots of
people
live along
its route.

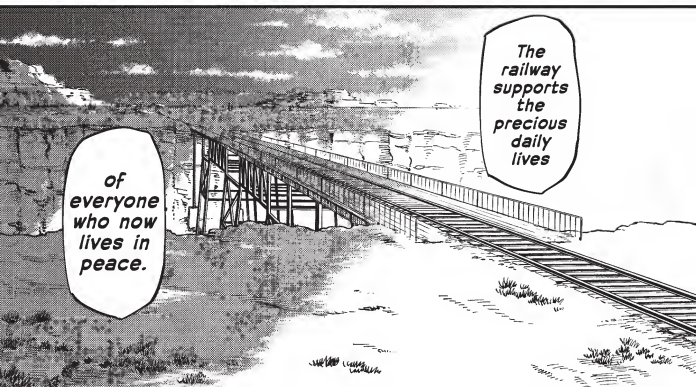
This
railway
runs
through a
number of
cities.



and
goods
...

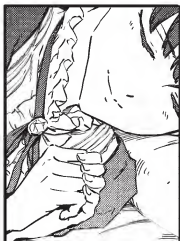
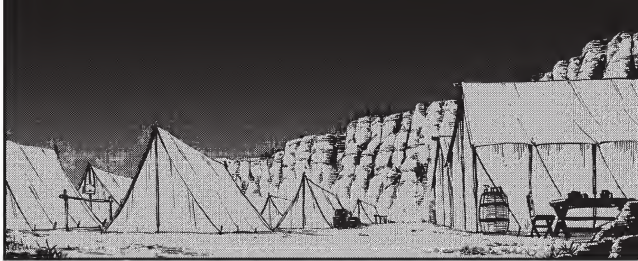


It
carries
people
...

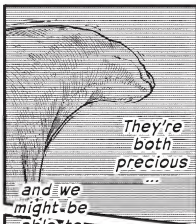


of
everyone
who now
lives in
peace.

The
railway
supports
the
precious
daily
lives

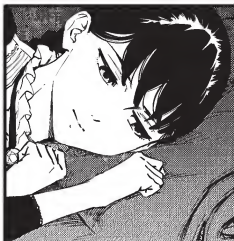


*I pray
Hank and
the soldiers'
operation
goes well...*



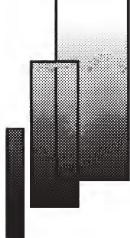
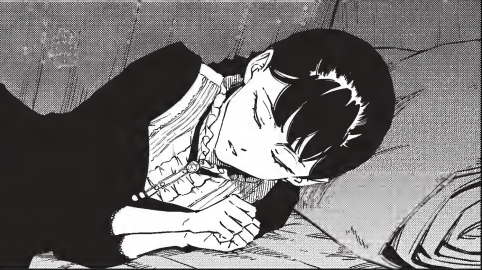
*They're
both
precious
...*

*and we
might be
able to
preserve
them
both.*



*That Incarnate must
have some powerful
desire that's pulling
him forward...*

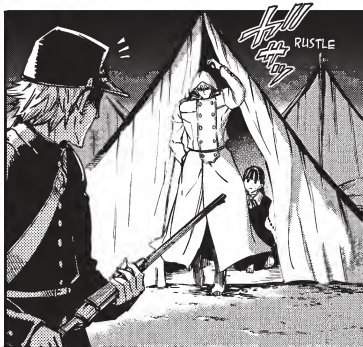
*But the trains
that run along the
railway are full of
the hopes of those
passengers...*

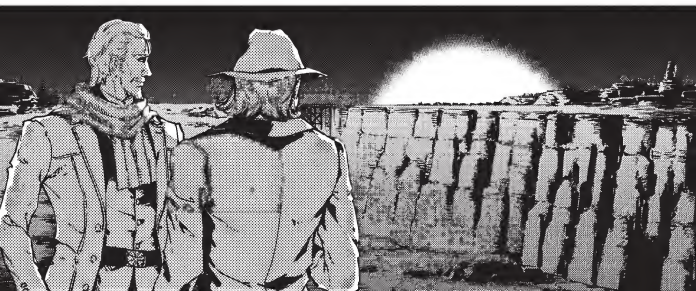
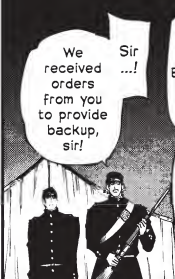






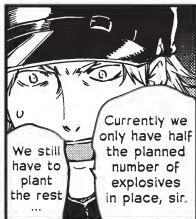














Chapter 5: March of the Behemoth (Pt. 2)



Yes
...



have to
fight him?
No matter
what?



Do
you
...



Even if he
still has his
humanity...

if he keeps
moving forward,
that bridge is
done for.



He still
hasn't
lost his
humanity
!

And
yet
...

He's
always
avoided
populated
areas
until
now...

You told
me that,
right?



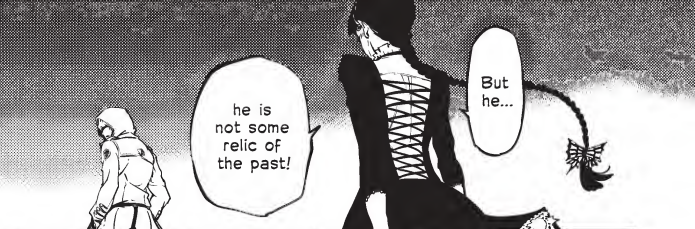
And in
peacetime
our lives
depend
on it.

We
wanted it
so badly we
abandoned
our human
forms to
get it.

That
bridge
...

a relic
of the past
cannot be
allowed to
destroy it.

An
Incarnate
...



he is
not some
relic of
the past!

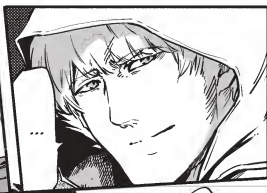
But
he...



HE'S JUST
ANOTHER
PERSON
LIVING
DURING
PEACETIME
!!

HE'S
SUFFERED
INJURY
IN THE
PURSUIT OF
WHAT HE
WANTS...

HOW IS
HE ANY
DIFFERENT
FROM THE
REST OF
US ALIVE
RIGHT
NOW?!



that's
just...

too
tragic
...

To
deny

his
wishes,
his life
itself...



All that's left is to wait for the moment he passes by...

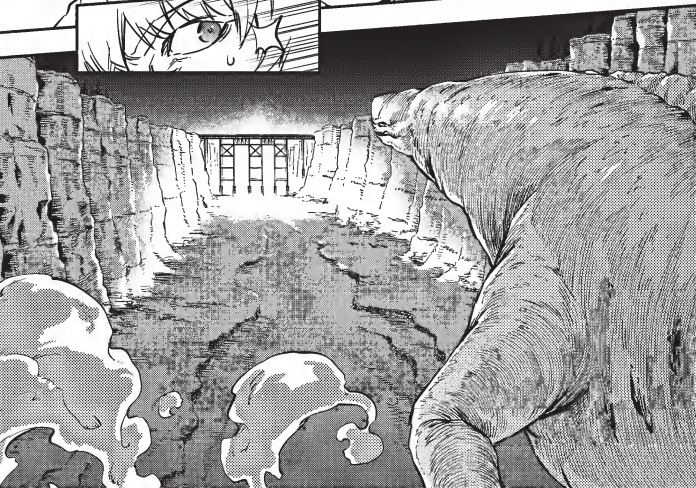
We had only a little time,

but we're prepared...



As it is, this is probably the best I can do...

The power of the Werewolf isn't enough to take him down...





too
tragic
...

that's
just...

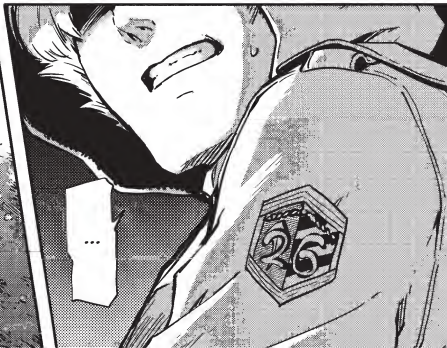
his
wishes,
his life
itself...

To
deny



You
...

Artie
...



...



WHERE
ARE
YOU
GOING
?!

ARTHUR
ALLSTON
!!



Can't
you
speak
?!

Can't
you
hear
me?!



There's
nothing
beyond
here!

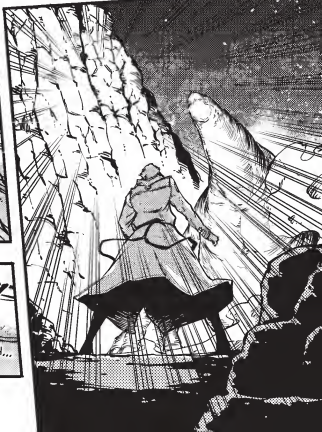
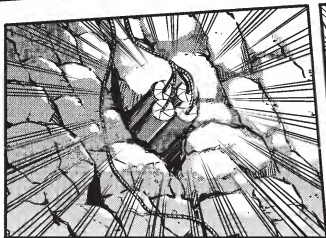
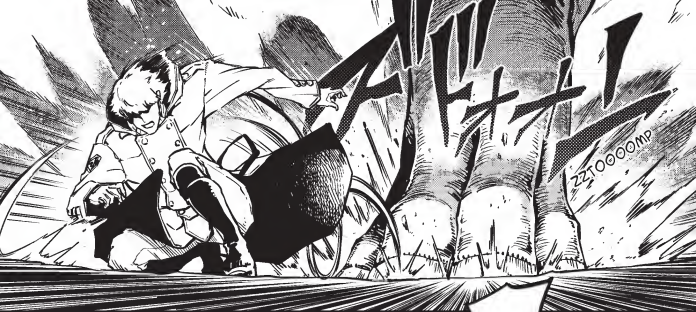


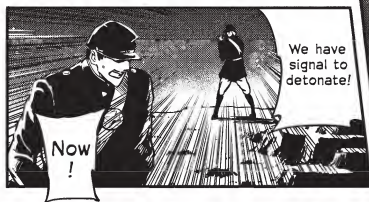
then
stop
mov-
ing!

This
is an
order
!

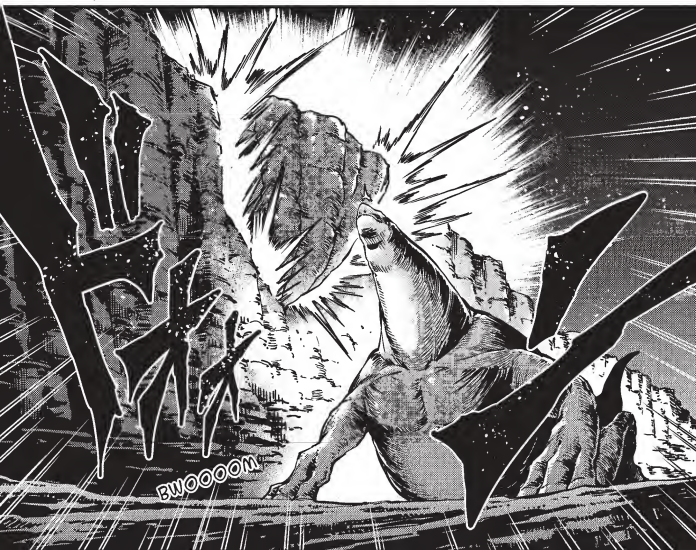
If
you still
have any
humanity
left...

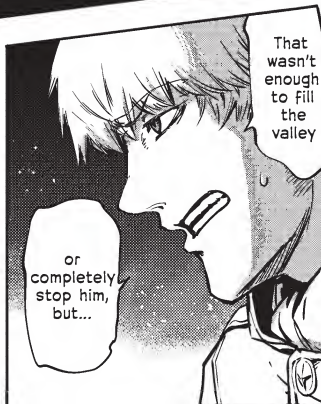
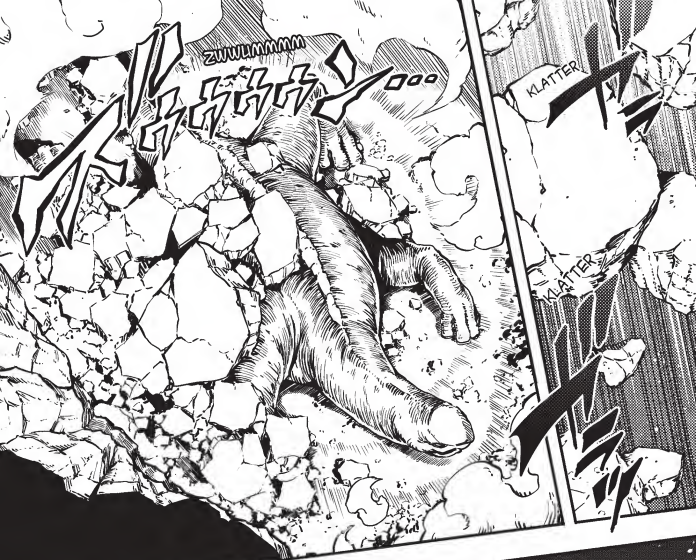






We have
signal to
detonate!

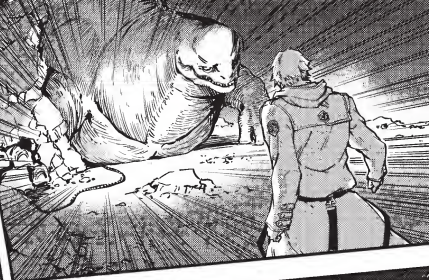
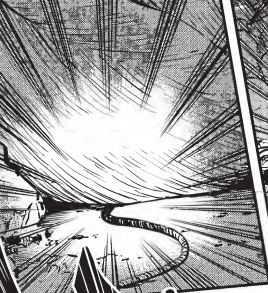




or
completely
stop him,
but...

That
wasn't
enough
to fill
the
valley



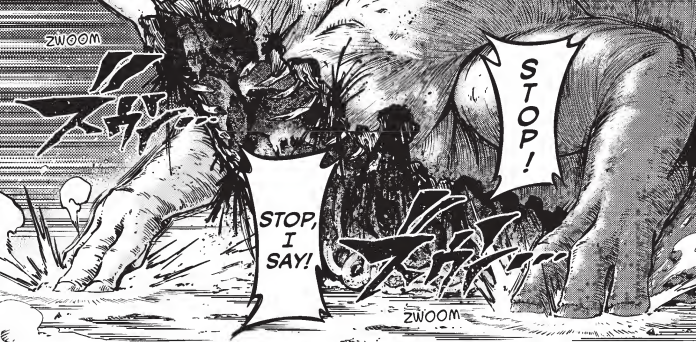




Artie

...





ZWOOM

STOP!

STOP,
I
SAY!

ZWOOM

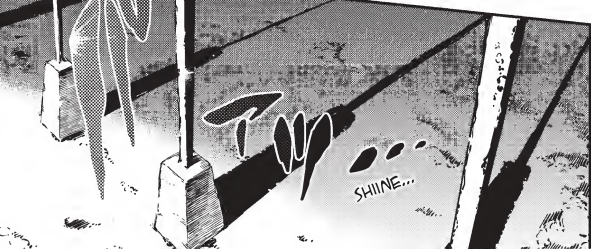


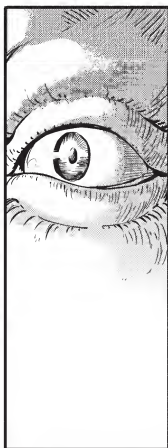
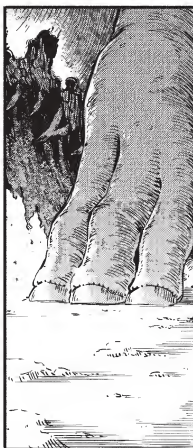
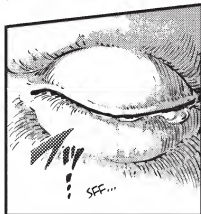
ZWOOM...

DON'T
...

DON'T
DE-
STROY
THE
ERA
THAT
YOU

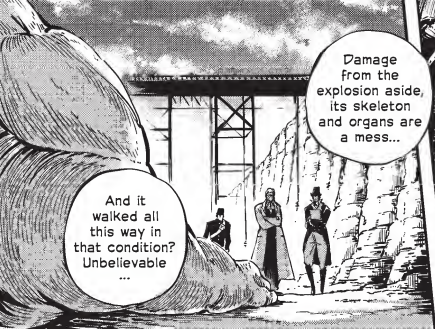
CRE-
ATED
!!



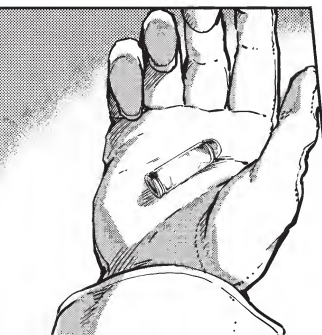
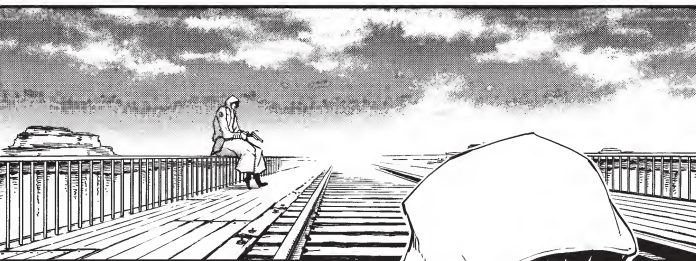
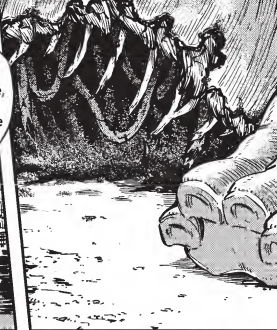




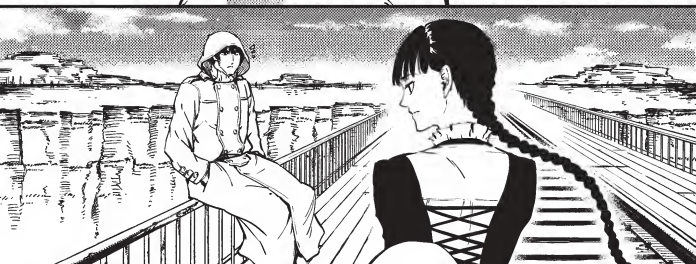




Damage from the explosion aside, its skeleton and organs are a mess...



CLENCH



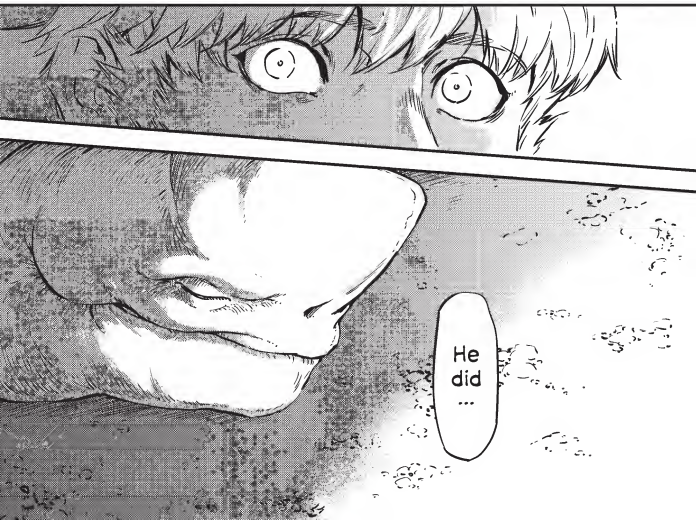
A
long
time
ago.

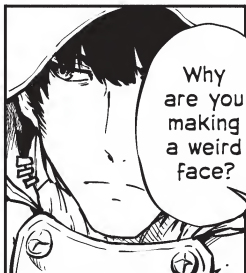
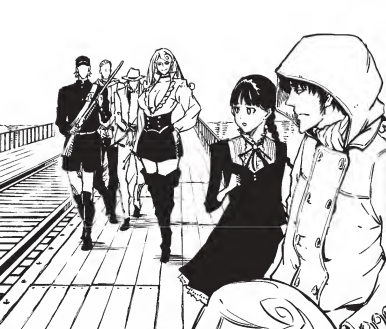
He
said
that
once.

"I
want to
see the
ocean."

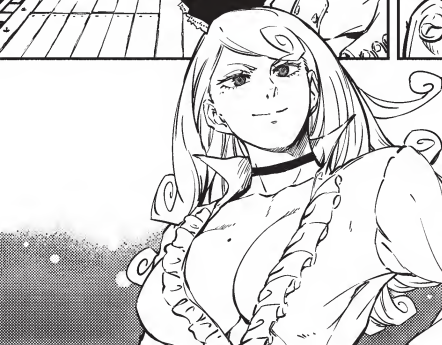








Why
are you
making
a weird
face?



Liza!



but
they're pros.
Won't utter
a peep.

The
perps
who tried
blowing
up the
Behemoth
last
night.

Seems
like the
rail baron
was behind
it,

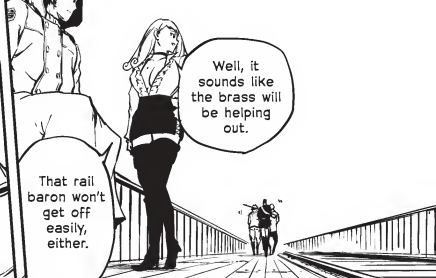


Weird
face
...?

Who
are
they
?

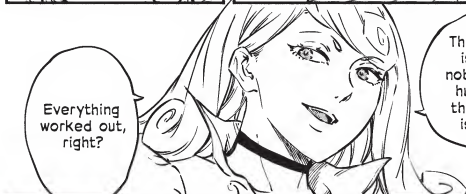


I see
...



Well, it sounds like the brass will be helping out.

That rail baron won't get off easily, either.



Everything worked out, right?

The bridge is safe, nobody was hurt, and the Beast is dead.



You need me for something?

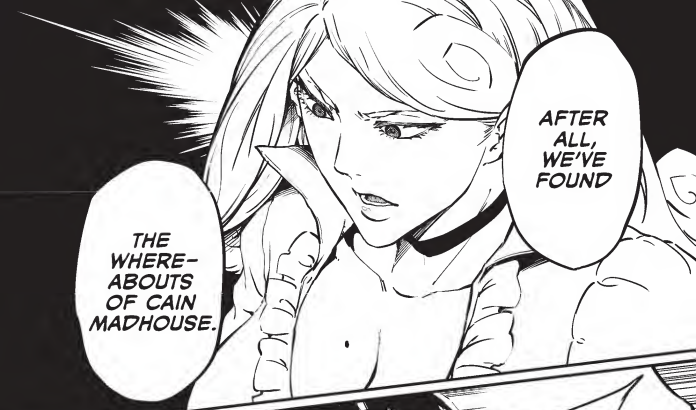
So...?



Watch your tone!

Keep acting like this, and you're gonna regret it!

You keep this worthless little thing but won't bring me along?



THE
WHERE-
ABOUTS
OF CAIN
MADHOUSE.

AFTER
ALL,
WE'VE
FOUND



Y-
Yes
...

He's in
White-
church,
City of
Steam.

They've
found
someone
who
matches
his
description
...



GRAB

Are
you
serious?!



Who is that...?

WHIP



He was my friend, the lieutenant of the Incarnate platoon...

And ...



This ...

Cain fellow ...

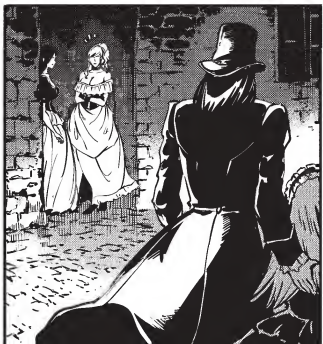


*the
man*

*who
loosed
the
Beasts
upon the
world.*

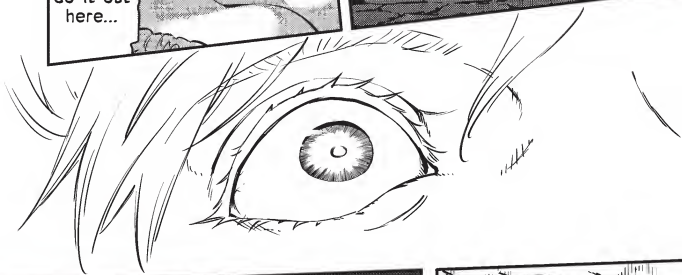
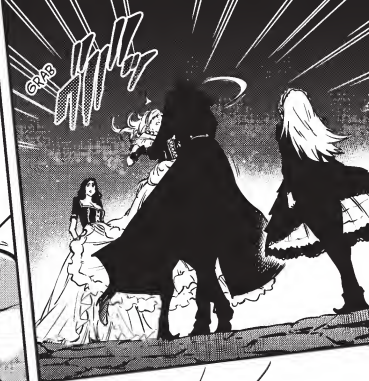


?!













What value
is there in
a world that
only has
nights such
as this?



Truly,
a dull
evening
...



Absolutely
nothing.

Don't
you
think?



Yes,

Master
Cain!



Continued in Volume 2

Sacred Beasts

file 3 | *Incarnate Behemoth*

Total Length: 164 ft.



Created by God as the largest living creature and ordained to become sustenance for man in the end-times.

This massive Incarnate possesses regenerative abilities.

The Behemoth can regenerate damaged parts of its body to be even stronger than before in a matter of hours. The thick skin covering its enormous body can withstand gun and cannon fire alike, and only grows stronger with sustained damage, allowing the Behemoth to become nigh-invulnerable within a short timeframe.

However, its sheer weight places incredible strain on its joints and skeleton, and excessive movement can mean death. As a result, the Behemoth is forced to move at a snail's pace; even keeping pace with its fellow Incarnates is a challenge, let alone charging the enemy head-on.

The psychological damage inflicted on the enemy by the sight of the massive creature drawing unflinchingly towards them more than made up for the creature's other deficiencies, however.

file 4 | *Bomb-lance*



Used by a Beast Hunter to fight Incarnates, the Bomb-lance is a lance with an explosive spearhead. The spearhead, which strongly resembles a whaling harpoon, is connected to a collapsible rod. While simple in design, the Bomb-lance's extreme heaviness and uneven weight distribution makes it almost impossible for average humans to wield.

By leveraging its weight, a Beast Hunter can drive the lance beneath the skin of the target, detonating the explosive from a distance by pulling on the wired detonator. The resulting explosion is capable of blowing through an Incarnate's skin and muscle tissue, enabling the Beast Hunter to bore the lance even deeper into its prey.

Incarnates possess superhuman life force that makes them impossible to kill without striking deep within their bodies, and the Bomb-lance is the Beast Hunter's ace in the hole, specifically designed for such a purpose. Despite its ramshackle appearance, the weapon consists of made-to-order parts that can only be used once, making it quite an extravagant weapon.

Encyclopedia Entries

file 1 | *Incarnate Spriggan*

Height: 10 to 26 ft.



A protector of treasure in ruins and fortresses capable of enlarging to enormous size in order to throw off enemies.

An Incarnate capable of enlarging its body, the Spriggan possesses a flexible frame covered in a unique fatty tissue. The highly-concentrated nutrients in the fatty tissue are consumed during the growth process, fueling cell multiplication and skeletal transformation, thus enabling it to nearly triple its stature. A horn composed of hardened dermis and keratin makes its attacks in this form even more powerful.

By adjusting its size, the Spriggan can thrive in both long battles (by remaining smaller and consuming less energy) and shorter skirmishes in its larger incarnation with its attendant explosive power.

file 2 | *Incarnate Minotaur*

Height: 16 ft.



Sealed in an underground labyrinth, this fearsome creature has the head of a bull.

Boasts agility and superhuman strength. Many Incarnates are incapable of precision work due to their non-humanoid appendages, but the Minotaur retained a high level of dexterity even as it became an Incarnate.

Its massive frame bestows inhuman power, making it particularly useful for constructing field fortifications, and its nimble fingers allow it to handle small components and a wide variety of weaponry. While its large size makes quick, rapid movements difficult, by using a specialized long axe and old-fashioned yet sturdy armor and helmet, the Minotaur exhibits its unique defensive capabilities.

The Minotaur's expert knowledge of infrastructure and traps can be seen in the fortresses it constructed, many of which survived the end of the war.

AFTERWORD

Hello, MAYBE here! Despite looking like a single person's name, we are actually a two-person writer/artist team.

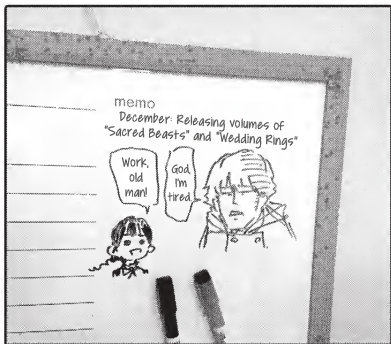
Believe it or not, we were contacted to create a manga series for *Bessatsu Shonen Magazine* (the current home of this manga) before it even started publication. We wondered what kind of story we were going to create, but things just kept happening (one of our other works was made into an anime, for example), pushing our start date back. By the time we finally decided, "Okay, let's get this started," we pretty much ended up throwing all the ideas we'd had until then into making "To the Abandoned Sacred Beasts."

It's quite a different creation from what we've made in the past, and while we're anxious, we hope you enjoy reading it.

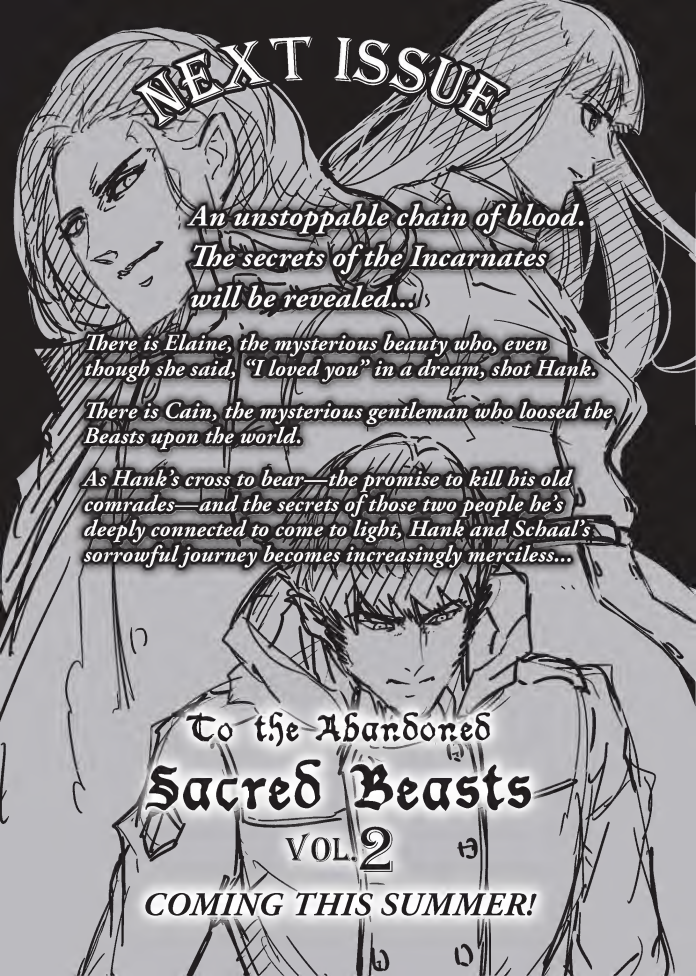
With such a long title, we've come to calling it "Sacred Beasts" for short, but it doesn't seem to have caught on, so call it whatever you like.

Now, then. Here's hoping we get volume 2 out safe and sound!

—MAYBE



• The studio whiteboard



NEXT ISSUE

*An unstoppable chain of blood.
The secrets of the Incarnates
will be revealed...*

*There is Elaine, the mysterious beauty who, even
though she said, "I loved you" in a dream, shot Hank.*

*There is Cain, the mysterious gentleman who loosed the
Beasts upon the world.*

*As Hank's cross to bear—the promise to kill his old
comrades—and the secrets of those two people he's
deeply connected to come to light, Hank and Schaal's
sorrowful journey becomes increasingly merciless...*

To the Abandoned
Sacred Beasts

VOL. 2

COMING THIS SUMMER!

To The Abandoned Sacred Beasts 1

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